Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

藤島康介

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

6

Oh My Goddess! 6

ああっ女神さまっ

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DARK HORSE MANGA™

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GEE, YOU KNOW... IT REALLY *IS* KIND OF CREEPY.

WELL...

...ANY-WAY, THAT'S WHAT THE LEGEND SAYS.

HOOOOOO

WOLF ROCK... A PLACE OF *POWER.*

AT NIGHT, WITH THE FULL MOON SHINING AND THE SURF ROARING LIKE A HOWL AGAINST ITS FLANKS, IT TRULY EVOKES THE WOLF OF ITS NAME. GAZE LOCKED ETERNALLY ON THE HEAVENS, THE TRAPPED BEAST SEEMS TO DREAM OF THE DAY IT CAN AGAIN BREAK FREE--TO STRIKE FEAR ACROSS THE WORLD.

HEY!! WHAT'S *THAT?!*

I Am She Who Wields the One, the Power of Terror and Destruction Dance With Me, Cry Out With Me... Run By My Side!!
O Great Wolf, Crowned With Darkness, Ye Who Slumber Deep in Stone Beneath the Fullness of the Moon!

CHAPTER 37

Urd Wakens the Wolf

NOW I HAVE IT IN MY GRASP-- *THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM!*

AIEE!!

WHOOM

WH-WHO'S *SHE?* WHAT'S *HAPPEN-ING?*

LET YOUR SCREAMS BECOME MY *MELODY!*

FLEE IN *PANIC,* FOOLISH WRETCHES!

HAHAHAHA

RMBBMMRBLL RMBBB

YAAA!

MY FENRIR!

COME TO ME!

HOWLLLL

IT... IT CAN'T BE...

HELP!

YOU HAVE BROKEN THE SEAL WITHOUT MY LEAVE, HAVE YOU NOT?

MY LORD, HEAR ME! IT WAS MY DECISION... MINE ALONE!

FEZZ

BELL-DANDY! SKULD!

RMBB

URD'S ALREADY SET HIM FREE...

HOW COULD SHE DO IT SO QUICK-LY?!

RMBBLL

AND AS FOR BELL-DANDY AND SKULD...

NOW THAT THE SEAL IS BROKEN, YOU MUST SENSE THE EVIL POWER...

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE!

WHRAAAN

OHH!

I CAN FEEL IT... WAVES OF VILE ENERGY... BEATING FROM THE CORE OF THE EARTH...AN ALL-ABSORBING DARKNESS, DRAWING EVER CLOSER...

THIS IS NO LONGER MERELY A QUESTION OF PUNISHING URD.

haa

BELL-DANDY!

THE ULTIMATE DESTRUC-TION PROGRAM IS RUNNING.

...TO END THE LIFE OF THE UNIVERSE AND TO RETURN ALL TO VOID!

THE PROGRAM WILL BECOME FLESH. IT WILL KNOW FREE WILL AND IT WILL EXE-CUTE ITS FUNCTION...

--I BESTOW UPON YOU THIS--A VACCINE TO DELETE THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM.

IT HAS ONLY ONE DOSE--

AND READ THE MANUAL FIRST... FARE-WELL!

Chugg!

THERE-FORE USE IT WISELY.

I SAID READ THE MANUAL!

GEE, Y'THINK THIS SILLY THING REALLY WORKS? LEMME TRY IT...

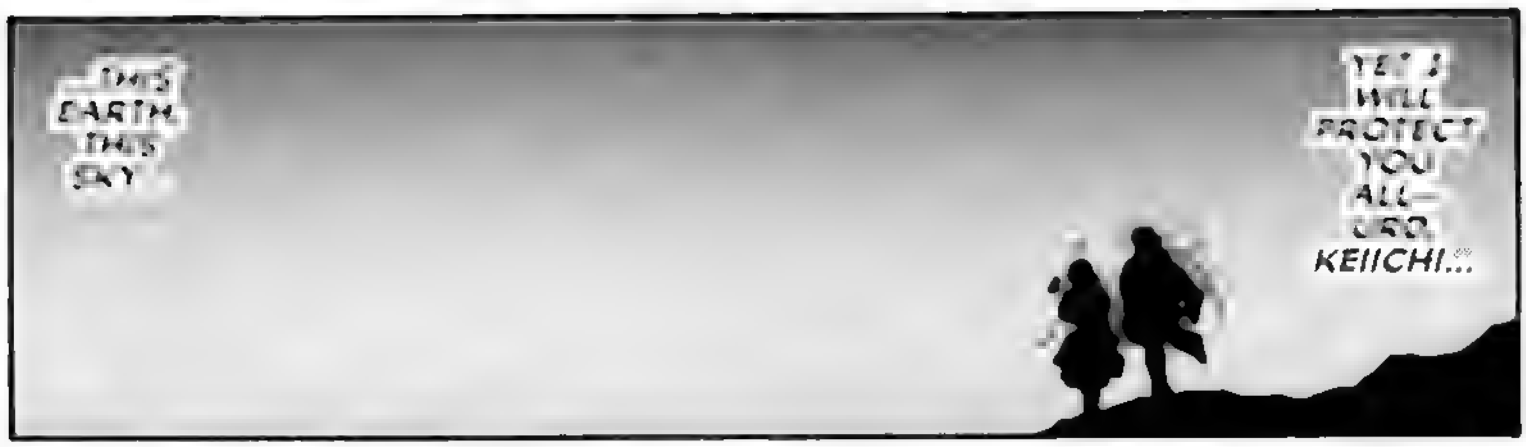
Sip

THERE-FORE I SHALL RELY UPON YOU, BELL-DANDY--

I MUST CONSERVE MY STRENGTH TO PROTECT YGGDRASIL ITSELF!

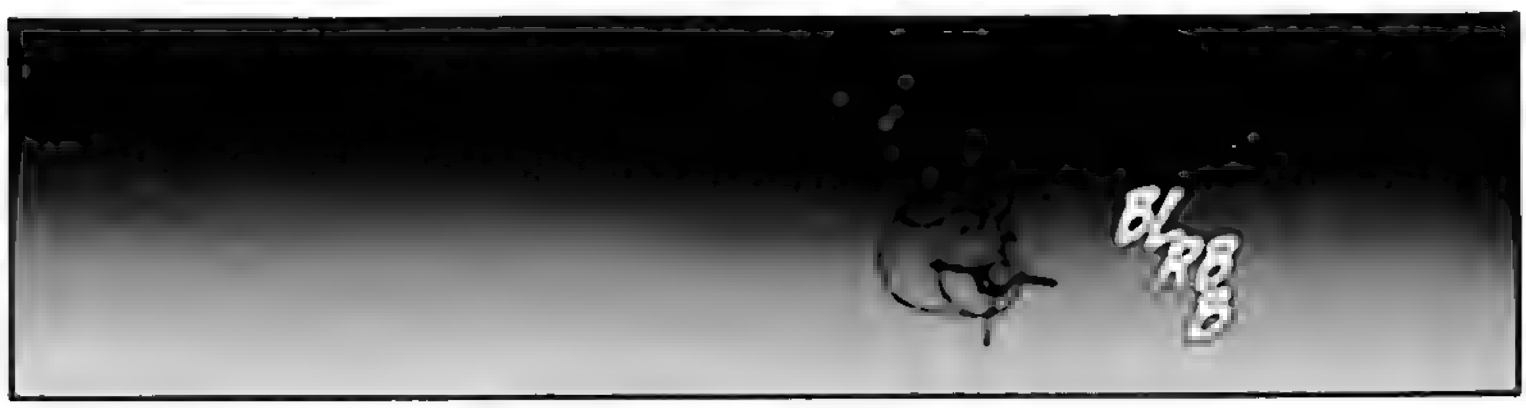
--YOU WHO DARED TO BREAK THE SEAL MUST NOW DARE PROTECT THE WORLD BELOW.

...THE FORCE THAT THREATENS TO DESTROY THIS WORLD...
BUT I COULD FEEL IT EVEN WITHOUT MY NEW POWER...


...THIS EARTH. THIS SKY...
YET I WILL PROTECT YOU ALL— EVEN KEIICHI...

AND THIS SEA.
SPLSSHH

BLBB


BLRBB

SPEED NINETY KNOTS ?!

CAPTAIN! LARGE OBJECT CLOSING FAST, COURSE ZERO-NINE-SEVEN!

THAT'S INSANE! NO SUBMARINE ON *EARTH* CAN GO THAT FAST!

0245 HOURS: NUCLEAR MISSILE SUBMARINE **USS** *SEA MONKEY (SSBN 744)*

GNING GNING GNING

ENGINE ROOM, ALL AHEAD FLANK! DOWN TRIM FIFTEEN DEGREES! MAKE COURSE ONE-SEVEN-SEVEN!

TARGET CLASS UNIDENTIFIED! RANGE 1600 AND CLOSING!

KANG

FLOOD AFT TORPEDO TU-

AAH!!

COLLISION WITH ENEMY VESSEL, PORT SIDE!

KHUD

DAMN IT!! WHAT IN THE HELL?!

CAPTAIN'S COFFEE MUG CRACKED!

MISSILE HATCHES JAMMED!

STAR-BOARD TRIM TANKS DAMAGED, SIR!

FLOOD-ING IN AFT TORPEDO ROOM!

CURSE YOU, RUSSKIE DEVILS! JUST WAIT 'TIL WE MEET AGAIN!

BLSSHH

BLOW MAIN TANKS!

WHOOO

0300 HOURS: MAKUHARI MESSE EXHIBITION CENTER, CHIBA PREFECTURE

WHOOO

ARGH
SKRAK

WURF?

HERE, BOY! GO FETCH!

huh?

HO HO HO! THE FULL MOON COMES OUT TO GREET US!

AROOO

ROWF!

WHOOD

NO!! *BAD DOG!* IT'S JUST AN *ILLUSION!*

GO *FORTH*, FENRIR! *FEED* ON THE SCREAMS OF DYING MORTALS!

FZZAK

COME BACK! IT'S A *CONTAIN-MENT FIELD!*

FZZAK

hrrrkk ?!

YOU *KNEW* I WOULD COME HERE...

...BELL-DANDY ?!

IT WAS IN THE "BIG PICTURE BOOK OF APOCA-LYPTIC BEASTS."

THEN HOW DID YOU KNOW THE PROGRAM MADE FLESH WOULD BE THE FENRIR WOLF?!

...I'VE FELT YOUR EVERY MOVE.

THAT'S RIGHT...

WE'VE SUPPRESSED THE MAIN PROGRAM!

yip!

AND THIS IS MY HANDY *OPTICAL ILLUSION PROJECTOR* "GANBARE GEN-SAN"!

AND NOW... *URD!* RETURN TO YOUR OLD SELF!

REJECT THE POWER THAT HAS CONSUMED YOU!

YOUR TRUE SELF WAS CAST OUT BY THE DARK ENERGY OF THE LORD OF TERROR!

AT THE MOMENT WHEN YOU FIRST CHANGED, I COULD STILL FEEL YOUR SPIRIT CRYING!

WHOOM

WHAAT

THUNDRAAKK

AND YOUR TRUE SELF CAN DEFEAT THE POSSES-SOR!

URD! DRIVE OUT THE ONE WHO HAS STOLEN YOUR SOUL!

IT FELT LIKE A SUMMER BREEZE.

shwip

OH, *MY*... DID YOU JUST *TRY* SOME-THING?

AT THIS RATE, SHE *CAN'T* SWITCH BACK!

IT'S HOPELESS... THE LORD OF TERROR HAS TOO MUCH ENERGY!

HERE, MA'AM!

...YES?

HEY, *SERV-ANT!*

...BECAUSE YOU KNOW, THAT MEANS **I'LL *DIE!!***

er...*um*... ***ALL*** OF MY POWER? I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE I HEARD YOU CORRECTLY...

WE NEED TO BOOST HIS POWER SO HE CAN BREAK THE CONTAIN-MENT FIELD!

ARUGH!

POUR ***ALL*** OF YOUR ENERGY INTO FENRIR!

UM...

hey!

...NO, I DON'T !!

OH, I DON'T KNOW...

WHAT GREATER HONOR COULD YOU ASK?

LOOK... YOU'RE CANNON FODDER IN THE CAUSE OF UNIVERSAL DESTRUC-TION.

twip

hm?

YOU'RE SERIOUS... 'AREN'T YOU.

clench

HER FORCE OF WILL... I WANT TO OBEY HER...

FZAAK

YOU CAN'T GET GOOD HELP THESE DAYS.

AIEEE!

MARA !!

WHRAM

HEY, BELL-DANDY... LOOK WHAT *I'VE* GOT!

...TO TURN *KEIICHI* INTO A *HUMAN FLY!*

IF YOU DON'T SHUT DOWN THE CONTAIN-MENT FIELD, I'LL USE THIS *MATTER TRANS-FORMER...*

NO... NOT YET.

NOW'S THE TIME FOR THE VACCINE FLUTE!

BELL-DANDY! *HELP!!*

BZZZ

WHAT?! BELL-DANDY!

ALL RIGHT, URD... I'LL SHUT IT DOWN.

GROSS!! NO WAY!

YOU DON'T WANT KEIICHI TO BECOME SOME HIDEOUS MAN-FLY HYBRID, DO YOU...?

THERE'LL BE TIME TO USE THE FLUTE AFTER WE SAVE KEIICHI.

...And Free the Bonds!

Release the Lock...

VREEEE

My Voice is the Key to Your Parting!

Web of Light, Containing the Darkness at My Command...

HO WH-WH-!

WHAM

HNGGAH!
FENRIR! TAKE MY EXCESS POWER FOR YOUR OWN!
DESTROY THEM ALL WITH ONE BREATH!
THE WOLF SPRINGS FORTH, AND THE END IS NIGH!
NYA HA HA HA!
AROOOOO!!

!!

WHSSH

ALL MY STRENGTH IS LEAVING ME!!

W-WAIT!! I SAID MY EXCESS POWER!

THIS CAN'T BE! THIS CAN'T..

AAAA

URD !!

FWHUD

KEICHI!!

HEY! LEMME OUTTA HERE! HELP!!

...I'LL GET YOU BACK TO NORMAL SIZE, I PROMISE.

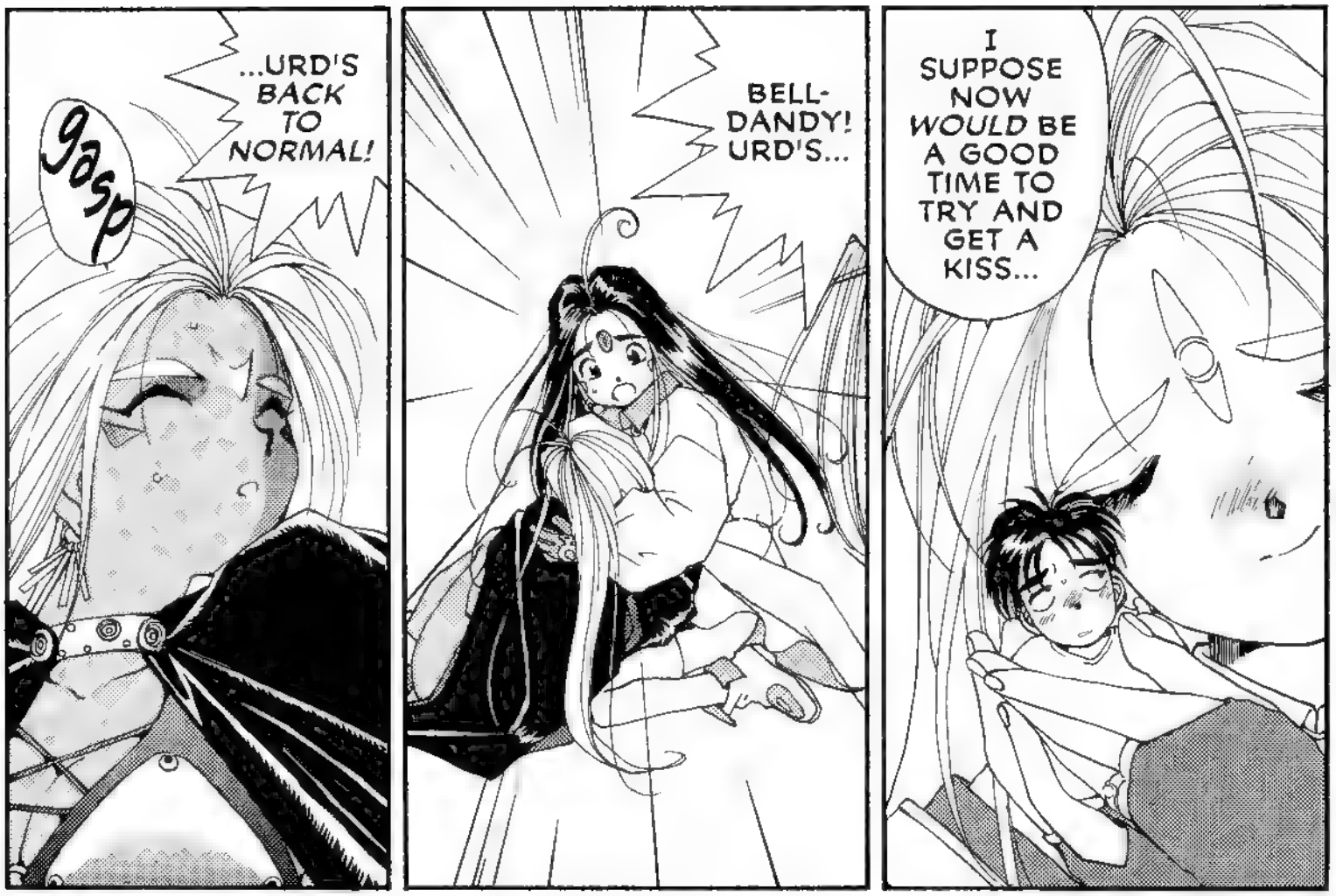
THANK GOOD-NESS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT...

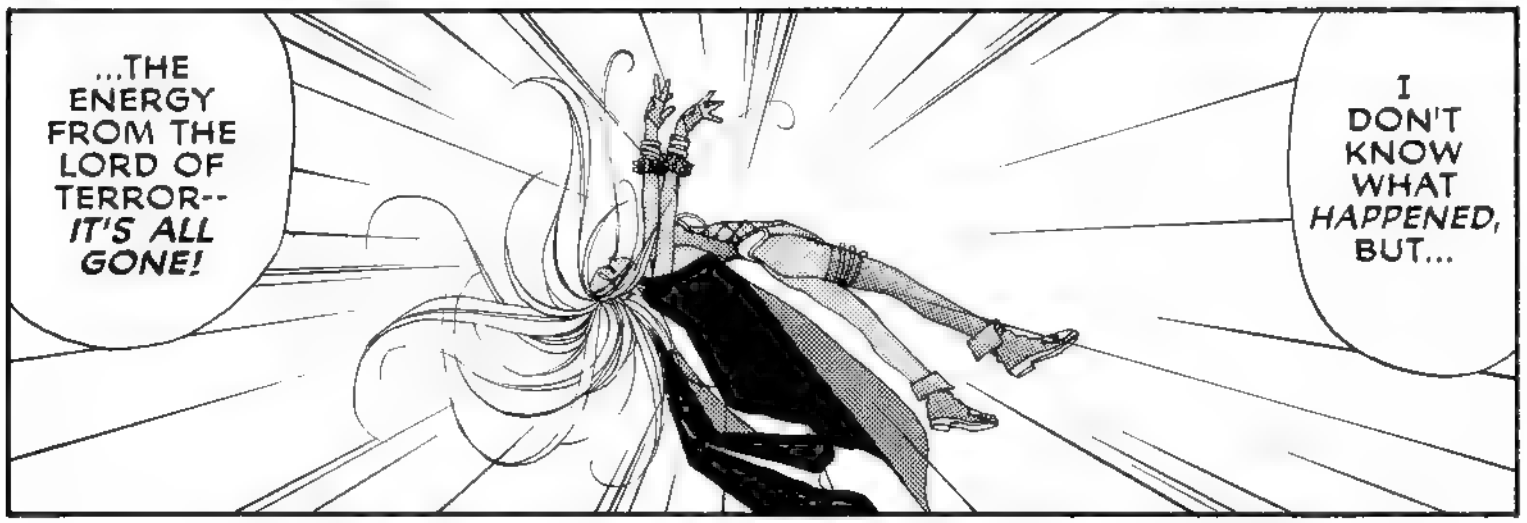
NAW... I JUST GOT THE FLY ON MY BACK.

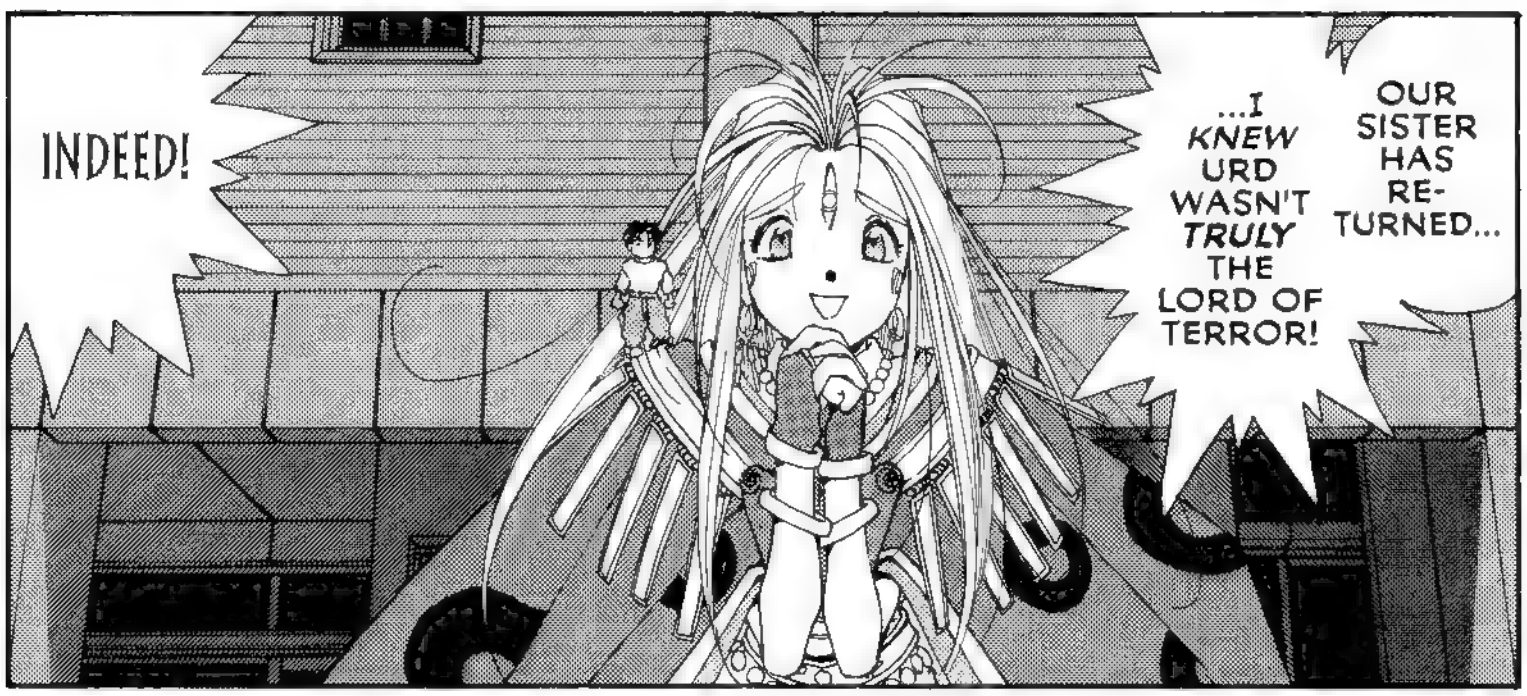
OH, *NO!!* THOSE *WINGS!* DON'T TELL ME--

bbbbzzzzzz

HUH?


gasp
...URD'S BACK TO NORMAL!
BELL-DANDY! URD'S...
I SUPPOSE NOW *WOULD* BE A GOOD TIME TO TRY AND GET A KISS...


...THE ENERGY FROM THE LORD OF TERROR-- *IT'S ALL GONE!*
I DON'T KNOW WHAT *HAPPENED*, BUT...


INDEED!
...I *KNEW* URD WASN'T *TRULY* THE LORD OF TERROR!
OUR SISTER HAS RE-TURNED...

...THAT I SHOULD AWAKE AT LAST!!
THIS DAY I HAVE LONG AWAITED...
VERILY, I AM HE WHO WILL LEAD THE WORLD TO RUIN... THE LORD OF TERROR!

...YOU'RE JUST THE MANIFESTATION OF A PROGRAM!
BUT BUT

O-OKAY!

SKULD! THE FLUTE PLAY IT NOW!

PHEE

...IS THE EMBODIMENT OF THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM ...?

NOW SPACE AND TIME SHALL I DESTROY!

I KNOW THAT BANEFUL MELODY...

WHAT ACCURSED SONG IS THAT?!

ALSO NAMED... *THE MIDGARD SERPENT !!*

YES! THE *VACCINE* AGAINST THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM...

SSSSSS

SSSSSS

SSSSSS

AKOOOOOO!!!

WE... WE *DID* IT!!

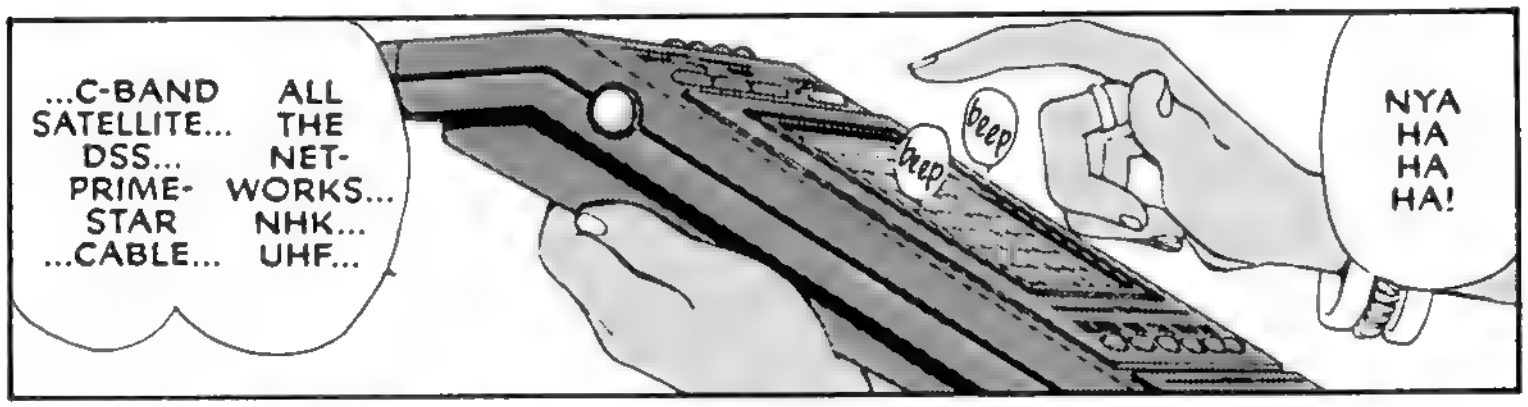
URD, MY SISTER... THE NIGHT-MARE IS OVER...

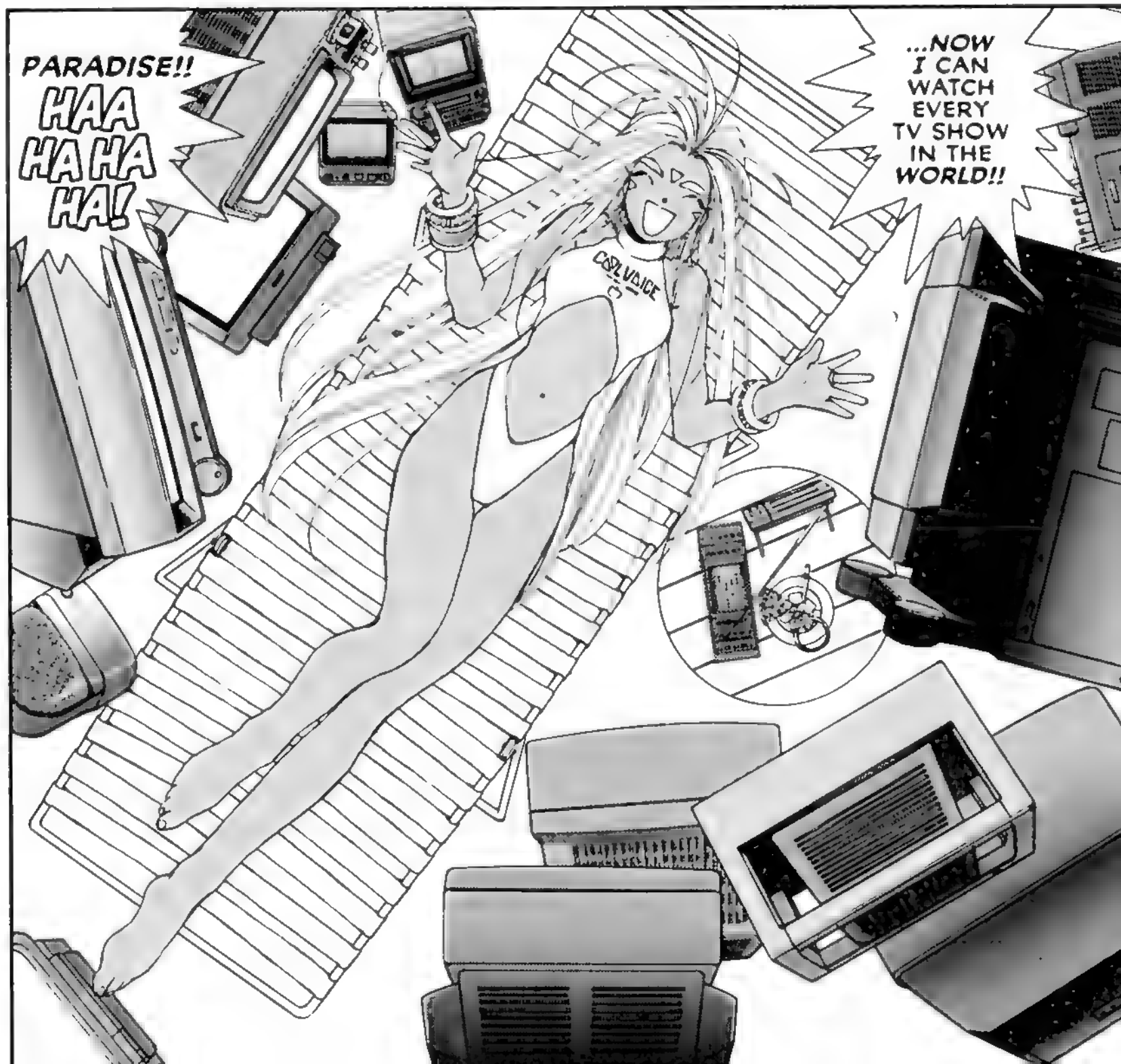
NAY!

NAY! THE NIGHT-MARE... ***HAS JUST BEGUN!***

CHAPTER 38

The Secret of the Lord of Terror


...C-BAND SATELLITE... DSS... PRIME-STAR ...CABLE...
ALL THE NET-WORKS... NHK... UHF...
beep
beep
NYA HA HA HA!


PARADISE!!
HAA HA HA HA!
...NOW I CAN WATCH EVERY TV SHOW IN THE WORLD!!
COOL VOICE

?!

HAVE YOU FORGOT-TEN...

PARA-DISE, SAY YE?

FZZZT PARADISE ...?

...FOR YE THERE CAN BE NO PARADISE...

...THAT THOU DIDST SELL THY SOUL TO THE DEVIL...

...FOR YE THERE CAN BE NOTHING!

STOP!!

...NOT EVEN YOUR GODDESS SELF!

NEITHER HAPPINESS... NOR SORROW.... NOR JOY...

...WOW.

WHEWW...

tmp

eh?

STOP ooo?

NO... STOP!

OH, ARE YOU *NICELY RESTED?*

FUMP

THANK GOOD-NESS IT WAS ONLY A DREAM.

HUH? RESPONSI-BILITY....? FOR WHAT ...?

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE WELL AGAIN.

YOU HAVE TO GET UP AND TAKE *RESPONSI-BILITY*, URD!

AROOO

FOR *THAT!*

HUH? WHAT?

...
...

I'VE HEARD OF HIM! HOW'D HE GET *HERE?*

COOL!

HEY! IS THAT THE *FENRIR WOLF?*

YOU'RE THE REASON FOR EVERY-THING BAD, URD!!

YOU'RE THE REASON FOR THE ARTIST'S BROKEN BETAMAX!

YOU'RE THE REASON WHY POST-BOXES ARE RED!

YOU'RE THE REASON FOR THOSE SMASHED BUILD-INGS!

YOU'RE THE REASON FOR THAT GIANT WOLF!

...BELL-DANDY?

BELL...

...MY SISTER.

BUT STILL... I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE BACK...

haa

IT'S AS GOOD AS TERMINATION TO BREAK THE SEAL WITHOUT LEAVE!

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, YOU BIG BAD WOLF!

NO, NO!! THE AL-MIGHTY HIMSELF SAID IT WAS OKAY.

HM?

THE SEAL!

BELL-DANDY! YOUR FORE-HEAD!

YOU AIN'T A CAT, BUT YOU BETTER HAVE A *SPARE LIFE* HANDY, YOU MANGY FLEA HIGH-RISE!

I DON'T GIVE A *DAMN* ABOUT MY LICENSE ANY-MORE!

AND YOU DID IT... FOR ME!

HUH ...?

AROOO!

CURSE YOU--- I'VE BEEN TRICKED! I HAD NO IDEA THE VACCINE WAS SO POWERFUL!

NO! NOT LIKE *THIS!*

BUT IT SHALL NOT END LIKE THIS!

AHHHHH

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THIS FINGER NOW...?

ER...

URD ...?

SHEESH, WHAT AN ANTI-CLIMAX, HUH?

uh... *BEHOLD!* WITNESS THE *POWER OF URD!*

nope nope

DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO TURN OFF THE VACCINE?

WELL... COULDN'T WE JUST LEAVE THEM UP THERE?

BELL-DANDY!

HUH ?!

I DUNNO... I THINK THEY'RE UP TO SOME-THING.

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT *THAT?*

THAT BIG BALL OF *SNAKES* IN THE SKY?

WAIT A SEC!

AW, IT'S COOL... THEY'LL JUST WINK OUT-- *TRUST* ME!

I DON'T KNOW, KEIICHI.

YOU? TRUST *YOU,* URD?!

FZZZK

FZZZK

HMM... MAYBE THEY'LL TURN THEMSELVES OFF AUTOMATI-CALLY?

YEAH... AND *CLOSER*, TOO. *REAL* CLOSE!

YOU KNOW... IT *DOES* LOOK LIKE THEY'RE GETTING BIGGER...

WHRAM

WHOOOSH

RUN AWAY !!

EEEK!

KEIICHI! YOU STAY IN HERE!

OH BOY!

KRAK

FWD

SPRAK

KEIICHI! YOU STAY IN HERE!

WHAK
HSSS

IT MUST HAVE BEEN INFECTED BY THE ULTIMATE DESTRUC-TION PROGRAM!

NO !!

THAT VOICE--!

HEH, HEH, HEH! SUCH A *CLEVER* CHILD.

...FOR IN TRUTH I *AM* THE ***LORD OF TERROR! THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM!***

NO ONE HAS DARED CALL ME A *VIRUS* BEFORE.

ALTHOUGH YOU ARE INDEED NOT FAR FROM THE TRUTH...

HOW LONG WILL YOU COWER BEHIND YOUR SHIELD?

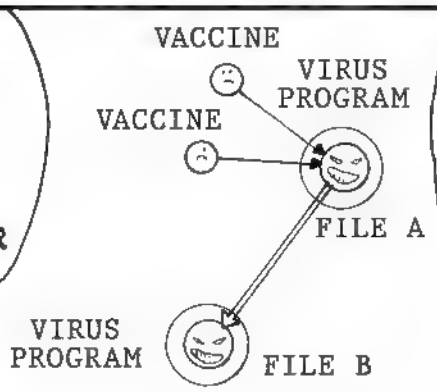
I HAVE OBTAINED THE FINAL KEY TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE!

OKAY, NOW PAY ATTENTION. HE HAS A SELF-REPLICATION FUNCTION, SEE?

I THINK I'M MISSING SOMETHING HERE.

SKULD... DO YOU MIND?

...HE COULD STILL COPY HIMSELF INTO ANOTHER FILE.



SO EVEN IF THE VACCINE *ERASED* THE ORIGINAL PRO-GRAM...

I STILL DON'T GET IT.

...I READ IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF *ROM-IN* MAGA-ZINE.

ALL OF WHICH...

BEHOLD!

HUH... SO THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE. NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.

IT... IT'S THE *UNIVERSAL SUPER-STRING!*

GONG!
WHAT GOOD WOULD A KNOT DO ME?!
I KNOW! TIE A KNOT!
YOU COULD USE IT TO HANG YOURSELF...
GONG!
COME ON--YOU AREN'T EVEN TRYING!
GONG!

...WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THIS STRING? ANY IDEAS?!
AND NOW, THE BIG QUES TION...

SUPERSTRING THEORY:
The idea--first popularized on Earth in the 1980s--that reality at its smallest scale is made up not of "point"-like particles, but "string"-like lengths (possibly as small as 10^{-35} cm in size). It is the particular vibrations of these strings moving through different dimensions of space (theories suggest 10, 11, or 26) that create what we previously thought of as particles (and the properties of those particles as well). Superstring theory is not yet testable through experiment, and is therefore perhaps better regarded as a model than a theory.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE, CHECK OUT BRIAN GREENE'S BOOK *THE ELEGANT UNIVERSE!*

HOORAY!
WE HAVE A WINNER!
EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT...YOU AREN'T, BY ANY CHANCE, GOING TO... *CUT IT?*

YES! *DISSSSSS-APPEAR!*
BUT IF YOU DO *THAT...* THE *UNIVERSE WILL--!!*

HEY!! ARE YOU LISTENING ?!

...SO THAT YOU COULD DO THIS?!

KRICH

YOU USED ME AS YOUR TOY...

LOWER THE SHIELD, BELL-DANDY!

BEFORE, I WAS, Y'KNOW, KINDA OUT OF IT, BUT NOW--

WOOOOOO

THE CESSATION OF ALL MOTION IN THE UNIVERSE!

THE DEATH OF ALL CREATION!

OKAY...

HEH, HEH...

--I'M TAKING YOU OUT, BUSTER!

TAKE... THIS !!

FZZK

Sputter

fizzle

SKULD! YOU TAKE CARE OF IT.

WELL, HMPH! I DON'T NEED TO WASTE MY TIME ON THIS WEAKLING, ANYWAY.

OKAY, OKAY...

HE ABSORBED ALL YOUR POWER... REMEMBER?

HUH? WHAT THE *HELL* ?!

SHEESH...

rustle

...WHAT A PAIN.

TAKE... *THAT* !!

A-KKKK!

WHKKOOM

...AND *CUT IT*, RIGHT?

IF IT WANTS TO CUT THE SUPERSTRING, THEN IT COULD JUST SNEAK OFF SOME-WHERE...

...THIS IS KINDA STRANGE, DON'T YOU THINK?

HEY, YOU KNOW, BELL-DANDY...

WOW! HIGH EXPLOSIVES ARE *COOL!* LET ME TRY ONE!

OH?!

SO WHY IS IT WASTING TIME ATTACKING *US*?

UH-OH!

PERHAPS THERE'S SOME REASON IT CAN'T DO IT AS LONG AS WE'RE AROUND ...?

SKULD!

DID YOU ACTUALLY ***READ*** THE MANUAL FOR THE VACCINE?!

UM...

I KNOW! IT MUST NEED SOME-THING *ELSE* TO CUT THE STRING!

THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME WAY TO DELETE THE PRO-GRAM!

EEP!

ULP!

ALL I NEED DO IS CUT THE STRING AND ***DESTROY THE UNIVERSE!***

HA HA HA HA!

LIES! I HAVE NO MORE NEED OF YOU!

WHRAM

BKOW

NO! DON'T LISTEN TO HER AND THAT PROGRAM-MER ATTITUDE!

YO HO HO!

OH... REAL-LY?

AW, C'MON, SIS! YOU ONLY READ THE MANUAL WHEN THERE'S SOMETHING YOU CAN'T FIGURE OUT, SEE?

IT'S SECTION THREE, RIGHT?

OKAY... LET'S SEE...

....

....

WELL, I SURE CAN'T BLOW THE DARN THING!

YUCK! I DON'T WANNA DO IT.

YEP! GOOD LUCK, SIS!

ALL RIGHT, THEN...

HEH-HEH... FORGET THE FLUTE BUSINESS, BABE...WASTE OF TIME. C'MON...LET'S GO, BOYS.

FORGIVE ME, MIDGARD... BUT IT WAS YOUR DESTINY TO VANISH FROM THIS WORLD. PLEASE, SAVE THEIR SPIRITS...

FREEBLE BLATSQUEE

AARGH!! SHE... SHE ACTUALLY *PLAYED* IT!

HSSL

SKREEE

!!

FZZAK

HISSSSSS

HISSS!

YES! THAT ONE!

I-I MUST... COPY MYSELF... NOW!

EEK!

WHUBB

MORISATO ROYAL SMASH BOMB!!

WHY YOU--!

CHOK

GAG! RETCH!

OH, NO! KEIICHI!

SHHFFP

KEIICHI!

...I TASTE TERRIBLE.

HEH... HEH...

EEEEEEEN EEEEEEN

SOME-ONE'S COM-ING...

EEEEEEN

OH, THANK YOU...

...THANK YOU, KEIICHI!

FOR GOOD ...?

IS IT FINALLY OVER?

....

WE-E-E-L-L... AS LONG AS HE DIDN'T COPY HIMSELF AGAIN.

--DO *WHAT?* I DON'T HAVE ANY *POWER* LEFT, REMEMBER?

all busted... sniff...

SWINE! MY *TV SETS* !!!

URD, WHY DON'T YOU--

SORRY! RIGHT AWAY!

HEY, TURN ME BACK TO ***NORMAL,*** OKAY, BELLDANDY?

YO, THANKS, BABE... LEMME GIVE YA A *SQUEEZE...*

Whrll

SSHH

SSSHHH

YOU DO IT FOR ME, BELLDANDY. I'LL TEACH YOU THE PASSWORD.

IT'S THE SAME ONE I ALWAYS USE.

...WE'RE GETTING REPORTS THAT THIS OBJECT, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SHOW UP ON RADAR. CURRENTLY, THERE IS--

...AS YOU CAN SEE, THE MYSTE-RIOUS OBJECT IS STILL HANGING IN THE SKY...

MAJOR *BAD* NEWS!

BELL-DANDY!

SAY... ISN'T KEIICHI ACTING KIND OF STRANGE ...?

heh heh heh

AS YOU HAVE GUESSED--- I YET HAVE LIFE!

THANK YOU!

THEN *THAT* MEANS... THE ULTIMATE DESTRUC-TION PROGRAM IS STILL--

THE UNIVERSAL SUPER-STRING HASN'T *VANISHED* ?!

I'LL TAKE THAT.

EH ?!

VREEEEEEEE

HA HA HA!

THE FLUTE OF MIDGARD... IS IN MY HANDS!

THIS MORTAL BODY HAS BECOME... MY BODY!

AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU GODDESSES CAN DO NOW TO STOP ME!

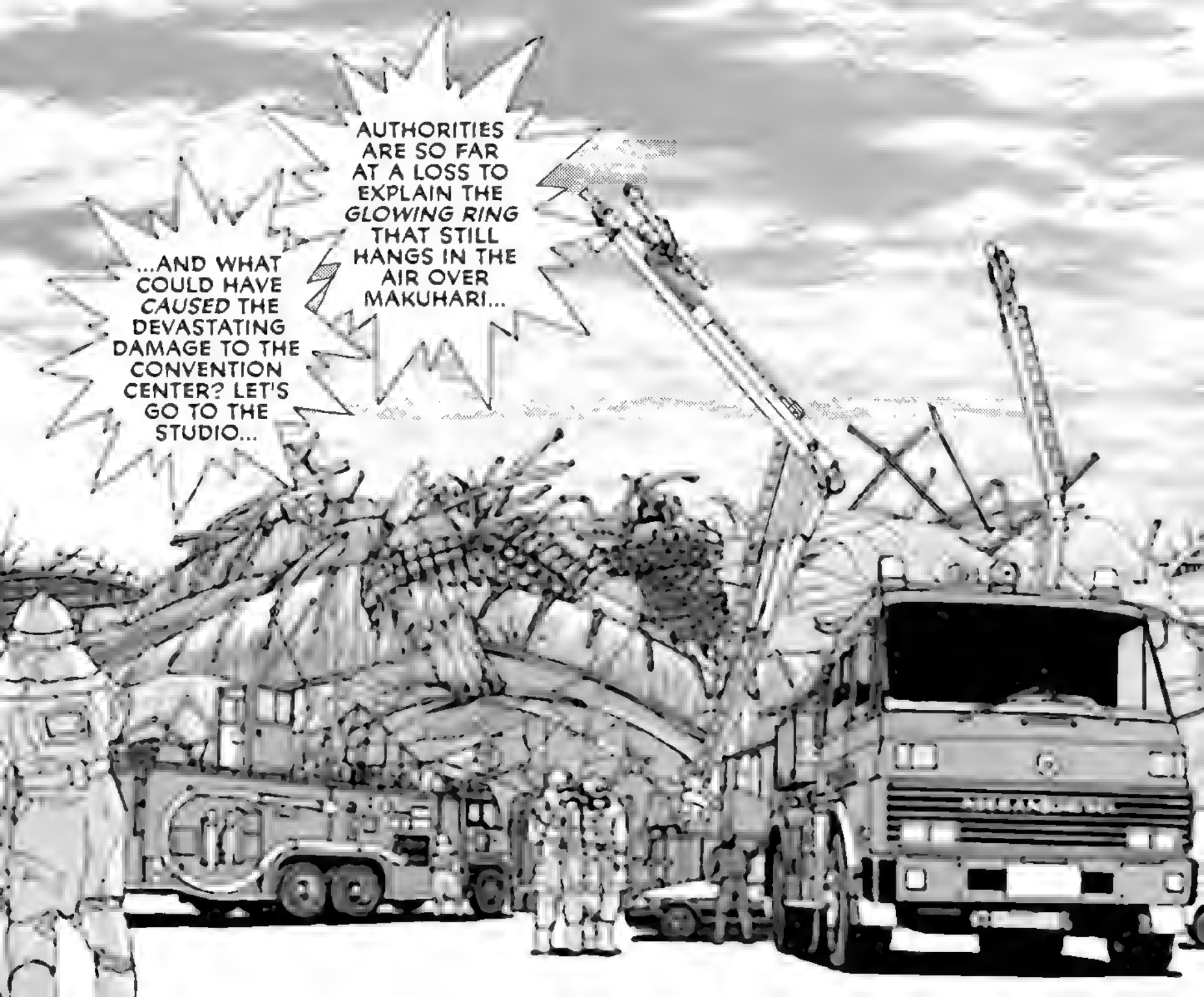
WILL YOU PAY ATTEN-TION?!

...I WON'T BE-LIEVE IT!

NO! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

...OR RATHER, THE RUINS OF WHAT WAS THE CONVENTION CENTER WHERE A SERIES OF *MYSTERIOUS EVENTS* HAS OCCURRED OVERNIGHT!
I'M REPORTING LIVE FROM JUST OUTSIDE THE MAKUHARI MESSE CONVENTION CENTER

CHAPTER 39
Confession


AUTHORITIES ARE SO FAR AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN THE *GLOWING RING* THAT STILL HANGS IN THE AIR OVER MAKUHARI...
...AND WHAT COULD HAVE *CAUSED* THE DEVASTATING DAMAGE TO THE CONVENTION CENTER? LET'S GO TO THE STUDIO...

THEREFORE *JOIN* IN CHANTING WITH ME THE ***HANNYA SHINKYO*** SUTRA SEVEN TIMES, THAT THIS EVIL MAY BE EXORCISED...

YEA, VERILY, THE DESOLATION WE SURVEY IS NOT OF *THIS* WORLD, BUT A DARKNESS ***SPIRITUAL!***

ALL OF THIS CAN BE EXPLAINED THROUGH READING MY BOOK, *IT CAN ALL EXPLAINED WITH PLASMA*, NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH KODANSHA.... 1400 YEN, PAPERBACK.

ahem...THIS IS CLEARLY A RARE MANIFESTATION OF *ELECTRICAL PLASMA EFFECTS.*

...GEEZ... WHAT IS *THIS* CRAP?

...

I DID NOT SAY THAT...

SO YOU'RE SAYING EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD IS PLASMA?!

NATURALLY, I EXPLAIN THEM WITH PLASMA.

AND HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THESE GIANT CLAW MARKS?!

N AIR

SO! YOU CLAIM THAT THE WRECK OF THE CONVENTION CENTER IS DUE TO ***"PLASMA"*** ...?!

YES. IT CAN ALL BE EXPLAINED WITH PLASMA.

IT *BOTHERS* YOU, HUH?!

CAN'T *STAND* IT, HUH? *HUH?!*

YOU KNOW, EVEN FOR A *LORD OF TERROR*...

...YOU'RE A *PAIN*, BUDDY.

HA HA *HA!* *SEE* HOW THEY PANIC!

THE PITIFUL MORTAL *FOOLS!*

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER AGENCY, WINDS WILL BE LIGHT FROM THE...

AND AS FOR *THAT* CRAP...

KEIICHI...

...MY POOR KEIICHI... STOP IT!

HEY... ASK ME IF I CARE! C'MON--- ATTACK ME! GO AHEAD!

PLEASE! PLEASE STOP!

WHY DIDN'T YOU INFECT *ME*, DARK LORD?!

WHY ?!

OR DID YOU ALL JUST FALL DOWN...

NYAHA HA HA HA

WHAT ARE YOU *WAITING* FOR?!

...AND GO...

I'VE GOT A ***HOSTAGE,*** REMEMBER?!

HEY! WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU'RE DOING?

creeeeak

HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT...?

GIMME ANOTHER ONE, SKULD.

HMM, NOT BAD. BUT I'D LIKE TO SEE HIM BOUNCE TWICE AS HIGH NEXT TIME.

THAT WAS THE *LAST ONE!*

BOW

IF YOU KILL *ME*, YOU KILL ***KEIICHI***, TOO!

ME! HIM! ***I'M*** THE HOSTAGE!

YES, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF GREAT BODILY HARM, URD...

WAIT! DOES THIS MEAN I CAN'T BLOW YOU UP ANY-MORE?!

OH... RIGHT. TECHNI-CALLY, I GUESS THAT *IS* TRUE.

WHAT'S *THAT* ?!

!!

SOME-THING'S COMING!

FLASH

DAMN!

FEAR

SO! YOU *WOULD* DESTROY BOTH ME AND THE HUMAN, WOULD YOU NOT...

...HEAVENLY ONE?!

FSSSSSSSSSH

BIG SIS...?!

BELL-DANDY!

I COMMAND YOU... STAND ASIDE!

fsshh

UHH...

WOULD YOU LET THE UNIVERSE BE DESTROYED FOR THE SAKE OF THIS MORTAL?

B-BUT... MY LORD...

WELL, LORD OF HEAVEN...WITNESS NOW THE JOLLY JAPES AND TERRIBLE TOMFOOLERY OF THE LORD OF TERROR!

TO THINK THAT A GODDESS WOULD SERVE AS MY SHIELD! HAW! HAW!

TRULY AN AMUSING DEVELOP-MENT!

...OH, RIGHT... FOR THE SUPER-STRING.

TEN-DIMEN-SIONAL ...?!

GET OUT YOUR TOOLBOX... AND MAKE ME A *TEN-DIMENSIONAL SCYTHE!*

YEAH? WHAT?

HEY, YOU! LITTLE MISS FIX-IT!

GRR!

HEH...

...ATTITUDE.

I CAN MAKE YOU *THIS!!*

STOP! *STOP!!*

IT'S A *THICK* SKULL, BUT I'M *GETTING* THERE...

...LIKE, *TO BEAT HIS HEAD IN!*

BUT I CAN USE TOOLS, *TOO...*

ARGH...A BEAUTIFUL GODDESS LIKE *ME*, DIGGING THROUGH GARBAGE...

...EVEN I CAN'T PERFORM TEN-DIMENSIONAL EQUATIONS UNAIDED.

I'M GOING TO NEED TO FIND SOME KIND OF COMPUTATION DEVICE...

KRASH tinkle

THERE ***MUST*** BE A WAY TO SEPARATE HIM FROM KEIICHI.

WE'VE GOT TO BUY SOME TIME UNTIL WE FIND IT...

...THIS WAS ALL WE COULD FIND.

SO...

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT... ...JERK.

HEY! EVIL LORD OF TERROR JERK! HELP US LOOK!

HUH? *ME?*

...AND A SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR...WITH A BROKEN DISPLAY.

A VIDEO GAME CONSOLE... A DISK...

AN ABACUS...

I...I *THINK I CAN DO IT!!*

URD! DON'T DISTURB MY CIRCLES!

I GUESS THIS IS THE BEST I CAN DO.

MAY AS WELL GIVE IT A TRY.

WELL... AN ABACUS IS *SORT* OF DIGITAL.

KLIK KLIK KLIKKA KLIK KLIK

OKAY... HMM... YEAH....

OH, MAN... I CAN'T *BELIEVE* WE'RE RELATED...

DOESN'T IT MAKE YOUR BRAIN HURT...?

NEVERTHELESS, LET'S BUILD THE THINGAMAJINGIE.

IT WOULD MEAN THE *DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE!* THAT'S ***BAD!***

NO, NO!! ***BAD*** GIRL, SKULD!

AND SO, IN THE END, SKULD WAS INTOXICATED BY THE JOY OF CREATION (LEADING TO THE AFOREMENTIONED DESTRUCTION).

FWAK WHAK

The hazammer makes a ringggg...

EACH BLOW OF YOUR STRIKING HAMMER IS A *NOTE*...IN THE SYMPHONY OF ***DOOM!***

...IS ONE *FORGED* BY A ***GODDESS!***

THE ONLY SCYTHE THAT CAN CUT THE SUPER STRING...

JUST KIDDING.

HEY, KID...YOU REALLY ***DID*** MAKE IT!

...NOT ***STUPID!!***

I'M *EVIL*...

I MADE WHAT YOU ASKED FOR!

10-DIMENSIONAL RICE COOKER

10-DIMENSIONAL TOAD

HEH... *SHINY.*

AND NOW, THE GREAT ***QUESTION!*** WHAT SHALL I DO WITH THE STRING *AFTER* I CUT IT?!?

KNIT A SWEATER.

HANG YOUR-SELF?

YOU LACK ***IMAGINA-TION!***

...INTO ONE OF MY ***OWN*** CONCEPTION!

I SHALL ***REWEAVE*** THIS UNIVERSE...

THAT'S *WORSE* THAN DESTROYING IT!

WHAT?!

WE *HAVE* TO KILL HIM! *WE HAVE TO!*

BELL-DANDY!

BY THE GODS! BEHOLD THE POWER OF THE *HANNYA SHINKYO* SUTRA!

THE FIELD COLLAPSED, THAT'S ALL. THE EXPLANATION LIES SOMEWHERE WITHIN PLASMA.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT MAKUHARI MESSE...

fftt.

WHOA!! IT VANISHED!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

FZZK

LA DA ♫ DEE DUM! ♪

I MEAN... WHAT KIND OF HORRIBLE SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM DO YOU THINK THAT NUT CASE WILL *MAKE?*

NOW... LET'S DESTROY THE UNIVERSE... WITH A WHACK WHACK HERE...

...AND A WHACK WHACK *THERE!!!*

...IF HE CUTS THE STRING, IT'S ALL OVER *ANYWAY!*

BELL-DANDY! *DO IT!!*

THERE'S NO *TIME* TO SEPARATE THE DARK LORD OUT FROM KEIICHI!

I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL, BELL-DANDY, BUT...

HI-
YAAA
!!!

BELL-
DAN-
DEEEEE
!!!!

I
CAN'T
!!

NO!!

IT'S THE *END...*

...OF EVERY-THING !!

HA HA HA HA

GOTCHA

?!

WII...
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!

URK...

YOU'RE GOING TO... YOU'RE GOING TO **BLOW US BOTH UP ...?!**

...LET ME **GO!!**

FFFF

I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!

IF I CAN'T REBUILD THE UNIVERSE... THERE'S NO *POINT* IN CUTTING THE STRING!

BELL-DANDY!! *DON'T!!*

HUH ?!

I CAN'T PREVENT IT... OUR BASE WAVELENGTHS ARE DIFFERENT-- *I CAN'T INFECT A GODDESS!*

NO!! SHE'S... SHE'S FORCING ME OUT!

ARGGH!

THERE'S GOT TO BE *SOMETHING* I CAN TRANSFER TO!

URD! HELP ME!

OKAY!

NOW I KNOW WHAT TO DO!

...!

HEY!

whoosh

fwak

WOW! TALK ABOUT *LUCK!*

...AND "DRIVE" AWAY! HA HA HA!

EXCUSE ME WHILE I TAKE A "COPY" BREAK...

"DISC" IS GREAT!

KTAK

OW!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT'S OVER!

BELL-DANDY!

KEIICHI...

KEIICHI...

KEIICHI, I...I'M SO GLAD I MET YOU.

THAT'S... GOOD...

haa

haa

thmp

THE LORD OF TERROR'S GONE... I CAN SENSE IT!

...OH, KEIICHI...

THAT'S... SO GOOD...

...WHO DO I INFECT *NOW...?*

NOW THEN, THE PROBLEM IS...

HEY!

tink

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

SNAP

AND NOW, A PROPOSED SCIENCE LESSON.

Nooooo!

YOU'RE A ***READ-ONLY*** FILE NOW!

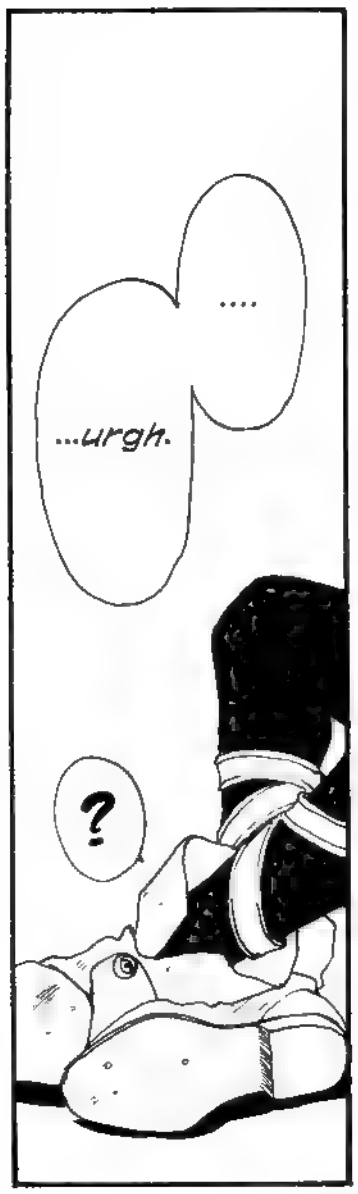
I'VE POPPED THE TAB.

WHAT WOULD BE ITS EFFECT ON A ***MAGNETIC DISC?!***

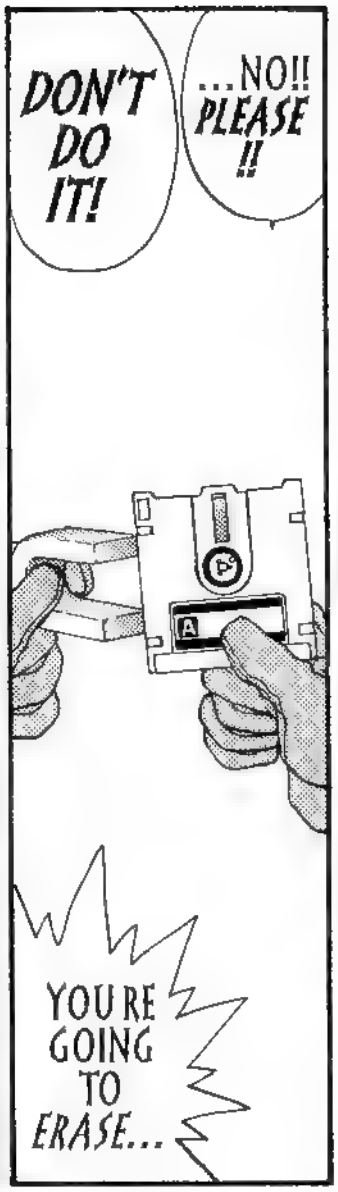
HERE I HAVE A POWERFUL MAGNET.

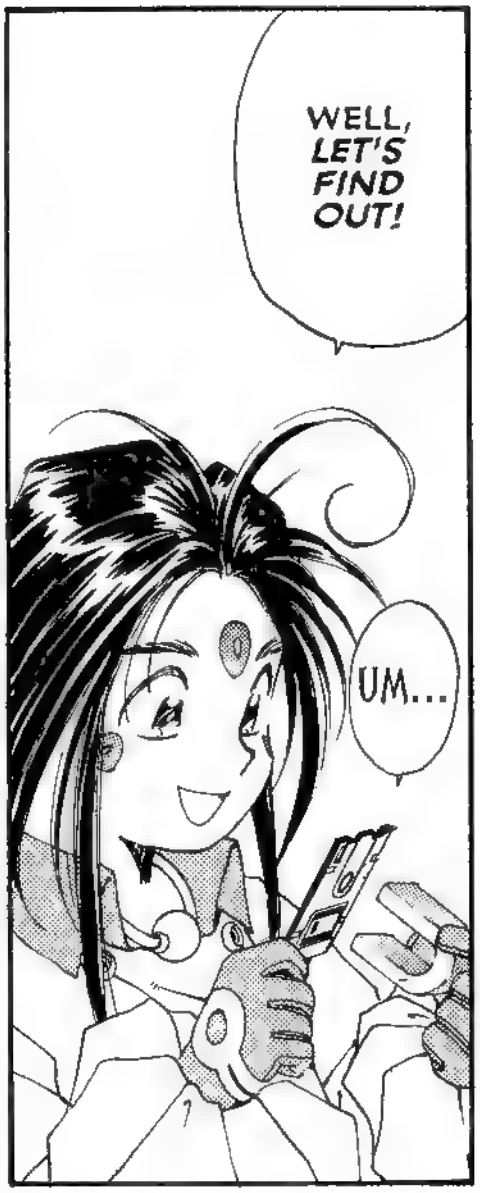
...I DUNNO.

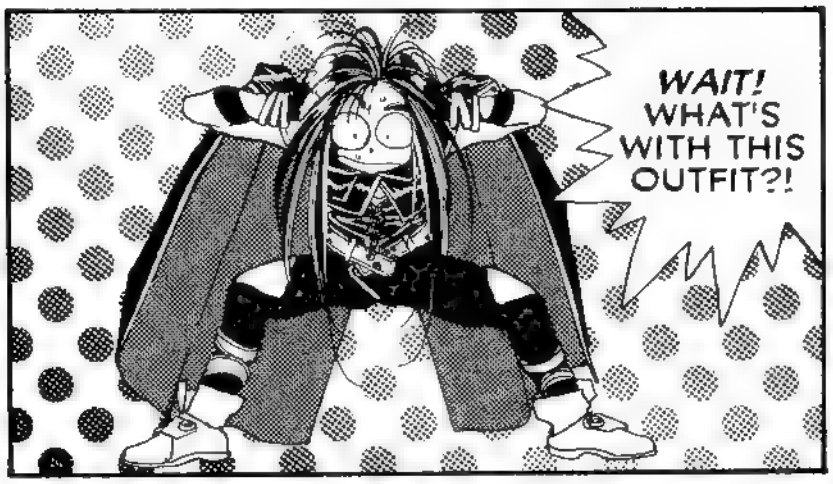
ER...


....
...urgh.
?

...MEEE EEEEEEE


DON'T DO IT!
...NO!! PLEASE !!
A
YOU'RE GOING TO ERASE...


WELL, LET'S FIND OUT!
UM...


WAIT! WHAT'S WITH THIS OUTFIT?!

THIS ISN'T THE MAKU-HARI MESSE...
HUH ...? HEY!

THE SUPER-STRING ...?
WE HAVE NO EXCUSE.
IT'S OUR RESPONSI-BLITY THAT THE SUPER-STRING GOT CUT.

FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES THE SYSTEM IS DOWN.

THE YGGDRASIL MAINFRAME IS DIVERTING *ALL* ITS RESOURCES TO SUBSTITUTING FOR AND RECONSTRUCTING THE SUPERSTRING.

I LEAVE THE DECISION TO EACH OF YOU.

YOU MUST ESCAPE EARTH UNDER YOUR OWN POWER... OR REMAIN.

"ESCAPE"...? WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

FAREWELL!

ABOUT YOUR SUSPENSION...

NOW THEY CAN'T SUSPEND MY LICENSE!

GOODY, GOODY!

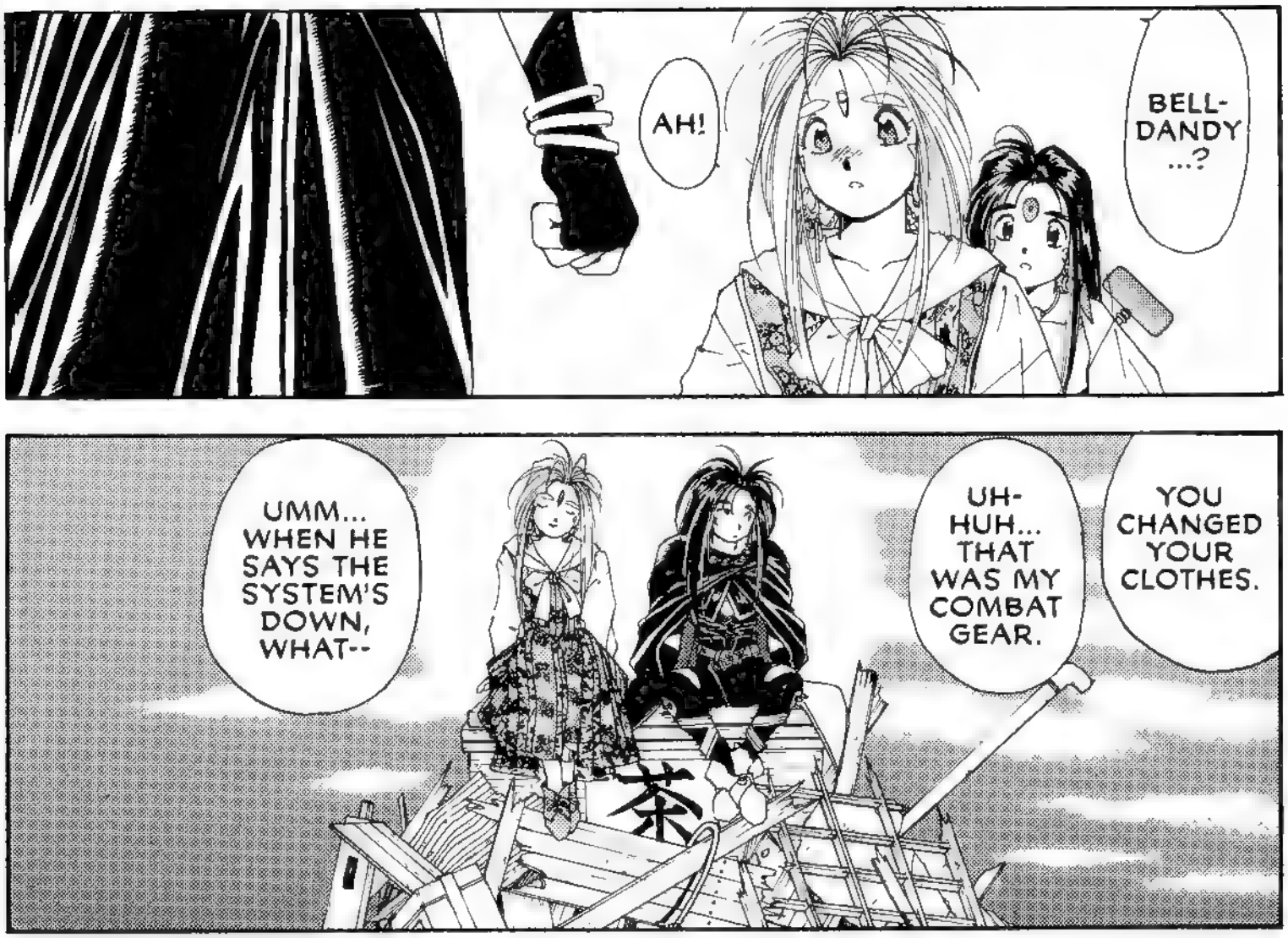
HOW GREAT A MEANIE THOU ART, LORD!

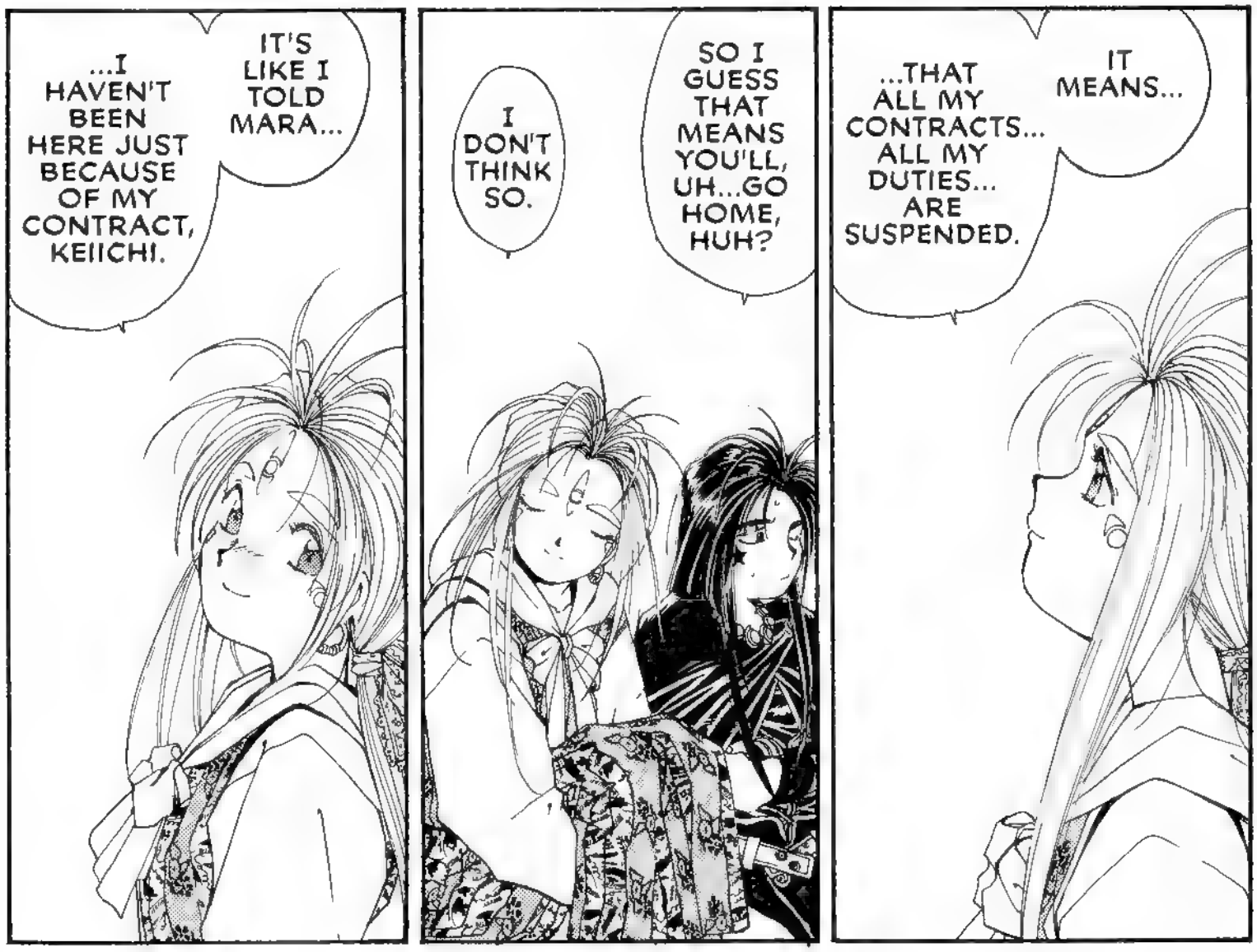
...I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT THIS WILL GO DOWN ON YOUR PERMANENT RECORD.

YES... THE STRING *WAS* CUT.

IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT YOU ALL DID YOUR VERY BEST.

HOWEVER...


AH!
BELL-DANDY ...?
UMM... WHEN HE SAYS THE SYSTEM'S DOWN, WHAT--
UH-HUH... THAT WAS MY COMBAT GEAR.
YOU CHANGED YOUR CLOTHES.
茶


...I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE JUST BECAUSE OF MY CONTRACT, KEIICHI.
IT'S LIKE I TOLD MARA...
I DON'T THINK SO.
SO I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU'LL, UH...GO HOME, HUH?
...THAT ALL MY CONTRACTS... ALL MY DUTIES... ARE SUSPENDED.
IT MEANS...

THAT MEANS I'M HERE NOW...

...BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.

CHAPTER 40

Robot Battle

All Ye Sundered By the Demon's Wrath, Hear My Call...

BRMBBB

... And Bring All Together Again!

Spirits of Earth... Spirits of Forest... Spirits of Water... Lend Me Your Power...

WHKRAMMM

KSSSSSHHHHHHHHH

EVEN SO, THAT USED JUST ONE TEN *MILLIONTH* OF MY CURRENT ENERGY.

YOU REALLY *ARE* RUNNING ON FULL POWER!

WHOA! THAT WAS *INTENSE!*

I HAVE TO BOTTLE IT UP AGAIN.

WITH THE LORD OF TERROR GONE...I'M MUCH TOO POWERFUL FOR THIS WORLD.

THERE!

UMM, BELLDANDY? CAN I ASK ONE LAST FAVOR, BEFORE YOU...

I REBUILT THE *BEDROOM!* VIBRATING, REVOLVING WATERBED... WHAT DO YOU *THINK?*

05

I'M JUST, YOU KNOW... TRYING TO HELP.

THAT'S BETTER. NOT A TRACE OF URDNESS LEFT.

ALAS, POOR *BMW!* I KNEW IT WELL...

tunk

HUH?

HM?

KEIICHI? LET ME DO IT.

NO. PLEASE, NO.

CAN I FIX IT FOR YOU?

...NOT THAT IT'S ALL MY FAULT-- NO WAY! BUT...

I GUESS I MAY BE A LITTLE RESPON-SIBLE FOR WHAT HAP-PENED...

WELL, OKAY, YEAH...

...SURE.

...

LET ME FIX IT!

...I BEG YOU!

LEAVE IT TO ME! I'LL MAKE IT GOOD² THAN BEFORE!

"GOOD²"?

EVEN THOUGH I'M STILL A LITTLE WORRIED...

OH? YEAH? NO KIDDING? WOW!

THE WHOLE MAKUHARI CONVENTION CENTER! SMASHED FLAT AS A REALLY FLAT PANCAKE!

IT'S *SO* AWFUL!

AH! *THERE* YOU ARE!

KEI-CHAN!

OH, NO... NOT NOW...

L-LOOK, I'M GLAD YOU CHECKED UP ON ME...BUT COULDN'T YOU JUST *CALL?*

NOW IS A *REALLY* BAD TIME.

IT'S JUST... NOW'S KIND OF A BAD TIME...

YEAH. YOU *SHOULD* BE GLAD.

THE *PHONE LINES* ARE DOWN, STUPID.

KEIICHI! KEIICHI!

DID YOU SEE IT ON *TV?!*

OH, WOW. WHAT A LITTLE CUTIE!

SHE'S BELL-DANDY'S LITTLE SISTER.

NO.

pat pat

WHO IS SHE, KEI-CHAN? YOUR DAUGH-TER?

YOUR BIKE'S READY!

it took me a few minutes...

KEI-ICHI!!

?!

IT'S HARD TO GET THE FLOW RATE RIGHT WHEN YOU INSTALL THE FAN IN FRONT OF THE CARB, HUH?

WHEW... THAT WAS CLOSE.

WOW... YOU PUT A TURBO ON IT?

EEEK!

GOSH! GOLLY! JEEPERS!

IT'S STARTING TO RUN AWAY!

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A LITTLE KID, OKAY?

YO. YOU.

SHE... SHE'S *GOOD!*

TWO RIVALS... UNITED BY FATE... DESTINED TO BATTLE! EACH SWORN TO DESTROY THE OTHER!!!

huh?

WHAT ?!

BUT POURING THAT KIND OF POWER INTO A STOCK FRAME... COULD BE PUSHING IT...

WELL... IN SKULD'S MIND, ANY-WAY...

ACCORDING TO *MY* CALCULA-TIONS, LADY...IT SHOULD BE ***PLENTY*** FAST!

ARE... ARE YOU ACTUALLY ***CRITICIZING*** MY DESIGN?!

I'M JUST SAYING THE BRAKES, FRAME, AND SUSPENSION MAY BE OVER-STRESSED...

I'M NOT SAYING IT WON'T BE *FAST.*

NO. THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO PROVE IT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

ER... DO I HAVE ANY SAY IN THIS...?

KEIICHI! TAKE IT FOR A SPIN AND PROVE I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!

SKRASSH

THOUGHT SO.

I BLAME ***DRIVER ERROR!***

VAROOOM

yikes

SKREEEE

...YOUR HEART WILL BECOME HARSH AS WELL...

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU USE HARSH WORDS...

THANK GOODNESS BELL IS HERE TO CALM HER DOWN...

SHE'S *MY* LITTLE SISTER... MEGUMI.

"PERSON" ...?

ALL RIGHT, KEIICHI! WHO *IS* THIS... THIS *PERSON* ?!

CALL *ME* IMMATURE? I'M GONNA BLOW HER INTO LITTLE BITTY BITS!

WELL, I DON'T CARE IF SHE *IS* YOUR SISTER!

SKULD!! BEHAVE YOUR-SELF!

--way?

SKULD BOMB, A--

PERSONALLY, I JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN.

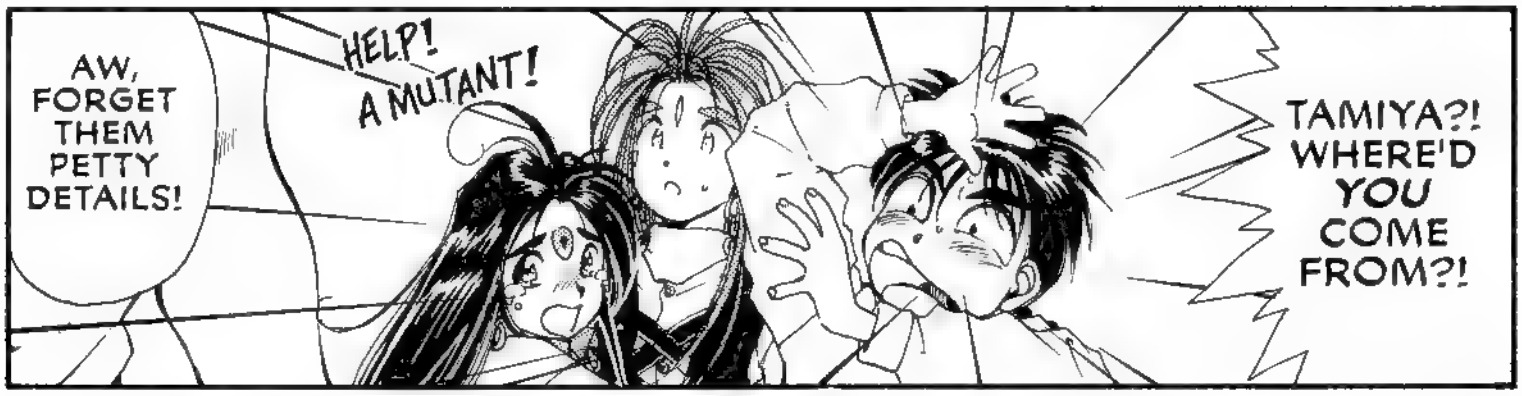
YEAH? Y'THINK SO?

HMM... I GUESS YOU THREE ARE MORE ALIKE THAN YOU LOOK.

WH-WHY... YOU'RE *RIGHT! THANK YOU*, BIG SISTER!

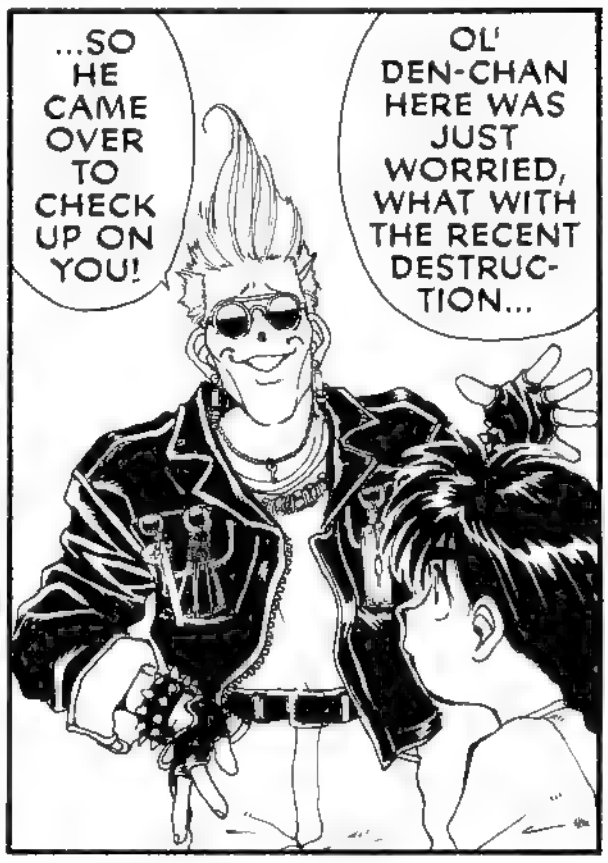
...AND BESIDES, FOR A *REAL* FIGHT TO THE DEATH, YOU NEED A *PROPER BATTLE-FIELD!*

WHAM!
FIGHT T' THE *DEATH*, YA SAY? I GOTS *JUST* THE PLACE!
YOUSE GIRLS ARE *REAL MEN!*


AW, FORGET THEM PETTY DETAILS!
HELP! A MUTANT!
TAMIYA?! WHERE'D *YOU* COME FROM?!

OH... *YEAH.*
noogie noogie

SEE?! HE'S ALL BASHFUL!
ME?! WORRIED ?!
UM-- WHAT'S THIS "PLACE" YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?


...SO HE CAME OVER TO CHECK UP ON YOU!
OL' DEN-CHAN HERE WAS JUST WORRIED, WHAT WITH THE RECENT DESTRUC-TION...

"ROBOT BATTLE" ...?!

ROBOT BATTLE

ALL WELCOM

PLACE NEKOMI TECH
DATE WHENEVER
RAIN OR
SHINE!

SPONSORED BY THE NEKOMI TECH MO

DAT'S WHAT IT *SAYS*, DON'T IT? AN' YOU THINK *I'M* ILLITERATE!

HUH ...?

HERE !!

ROBO

ALL WELCO

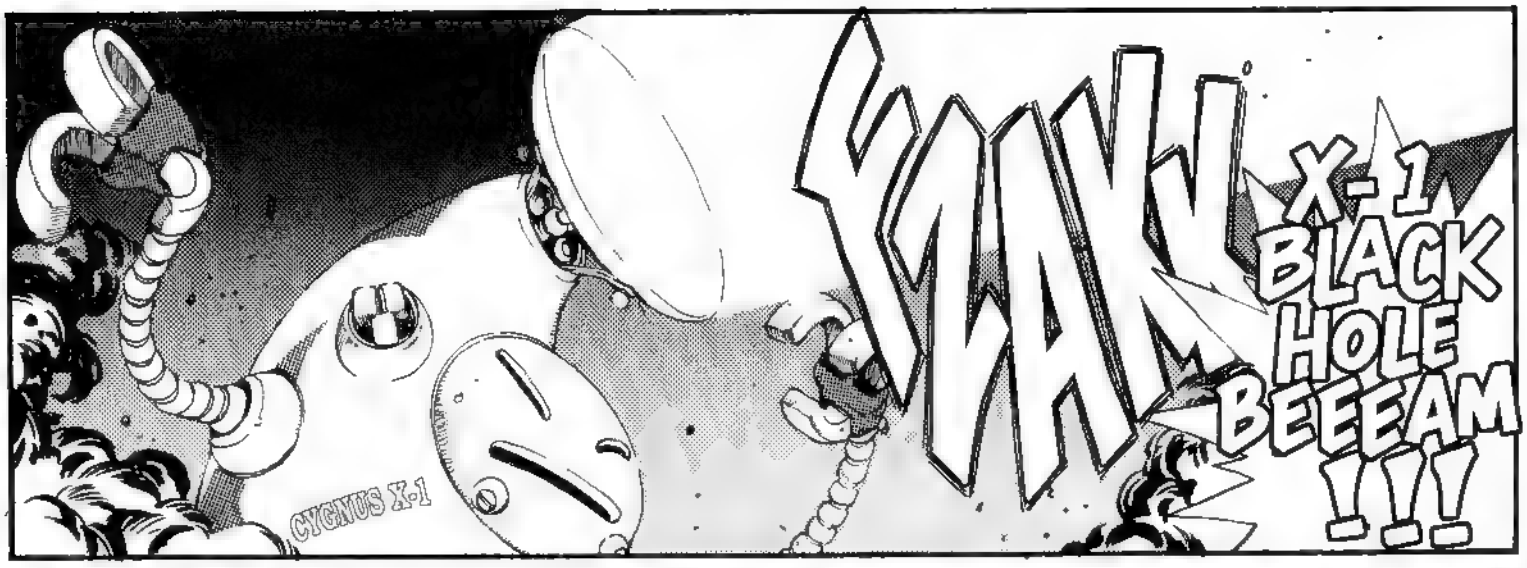
PLACE NEKOM
DATE WHEN
RAIN O
SHINE

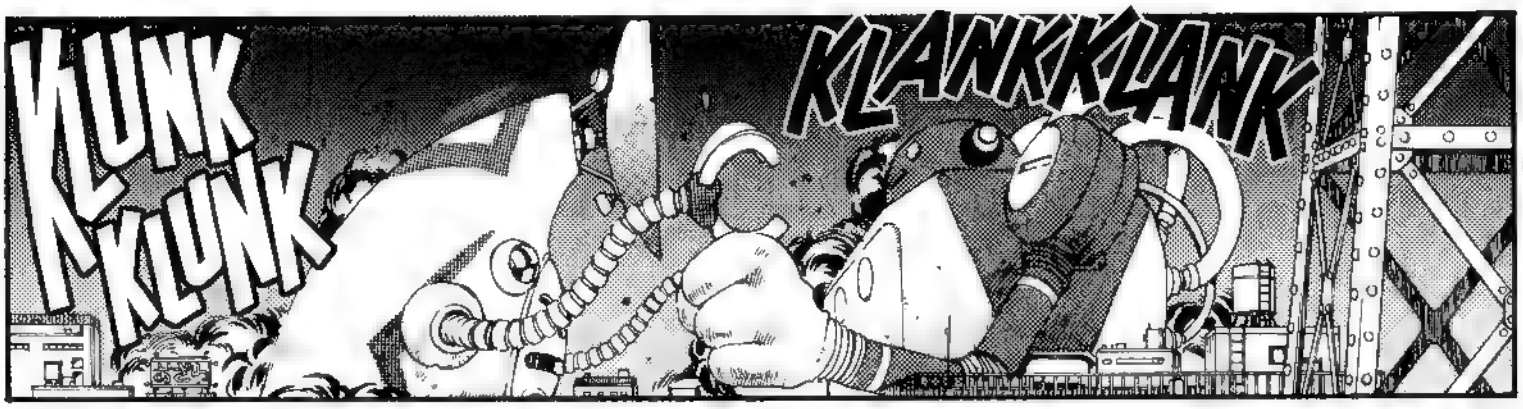
SPONSORED BY THE NEKOMI TECHNOTO

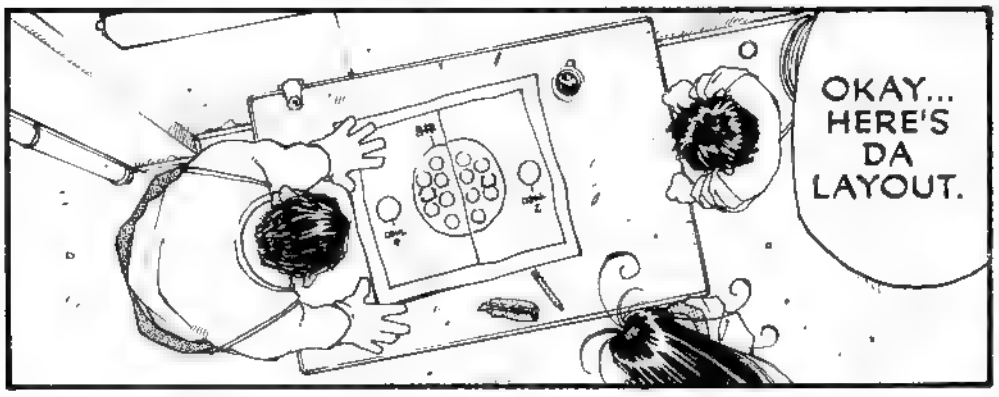
SO... *THIS* MEANS NEKOMI TECH...

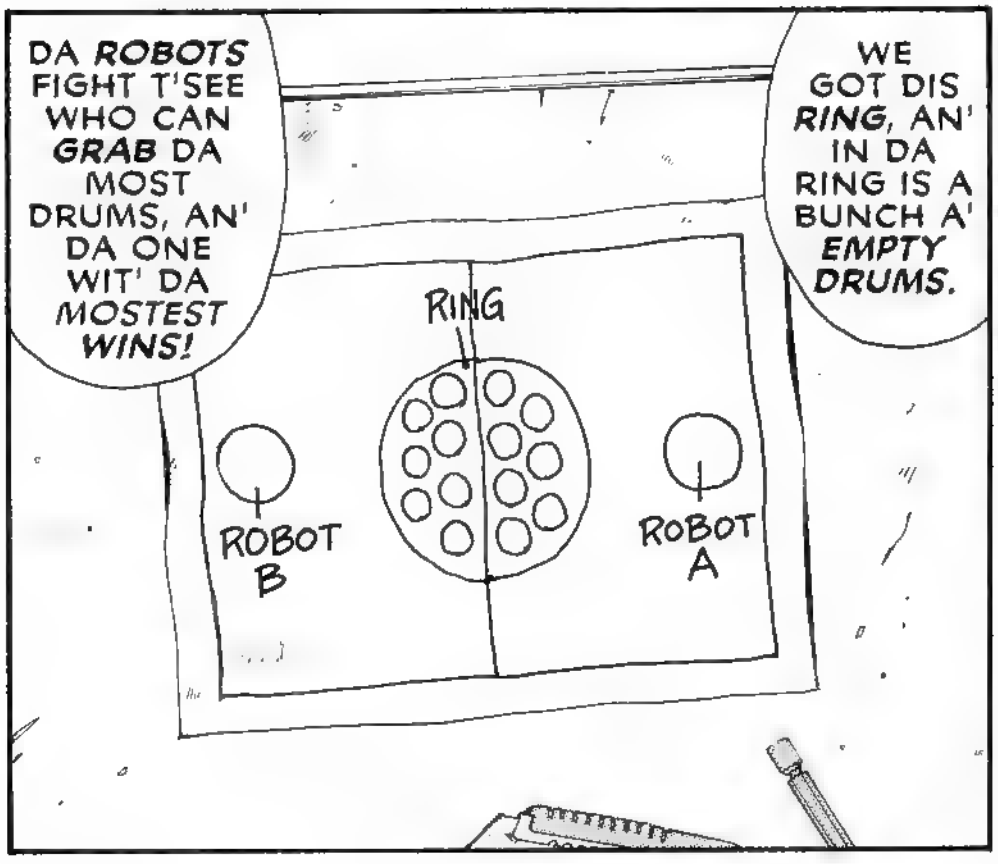
POW!

ROBOT PUNCH !!


CYGNUS X-1
FZAK
X-1 BLACK HOLE BEEEAM!!!


KLUNK KLUNK
KLANKKLANK


OKAY... HERE'S DA LAYOUT.


DA ROBOTS FIGHT T'SEE WHO CAN GRAB DA MOST DRUMS, AN' DA ONE WIT' DA MOSTEST WINS!
RING
ROBOT B
ROBOT A
WE GOT DIS RING, AN' IN DA RING IS A BUNCH A' EMPTY DRUMS.

WRONG.
RIGHT?
...WILL BECOME A WAR ZONE OF CLASHING METAL TITANS!
SQUEE WHAM KRANG

YER *MATERIALS* IS OVER *DERE!*

WHEW... WHAT A RELIEF. IT'S A PRETTY NORMAL IDEA...

FOR *THOSE* GUYS.

YOU PROVIDES DA *PEOPLE!*

WE PROVIDES DA *MATERIALS!*

AN' YOU CAN MESS WIT DA *UDDER* GUY'S ROBOT ALL YUH *WANT!*

WHA--?!

...THIS *JUNK* ?!

TH-THIS...

SKULD-CHAN APPROACHES! *HAIL SKULD-CHAN!*

BUT EVENTS SOON TOOK AN UNEXPECTED (OR, PERHAPS, ENTIRELY EXPECTED) TURN.

WE ARE MENTALLY UNBALANCED AND SWEAR TO DEFEND SKULD TO THE DEATH!

SO SUPER CUTE!

FIGHT! FIGHT! SKULD-CHAN!

SO CUTE! SO SUPER CUTE!

WE ARE THE SOLDIERS OF THE SKULD PALACE GUARD!

SKULD WAS AN INSTANT CAMPUS PHENOMENON...

AND SKULD-CHAN ON THE BRAIN-PAN!

WE'VE GOT SKULD IN OUR SKULLS!

MEGUMI=MON CHERI♥

WE PUT THE *ME*-GA INTO OUR *ME-GUMI DEVOTION!*

MEGUMI RULES OK!

MEGUMI FAN CLUB

I ♡ MEGUMI

...IT'S QUITE POSSIBLE WE MAY ENCOUNTER SOME SKULD BOYS...

KEIICHI! LET US CALL YOU BROTHER!

NOW WHEN WE GET TO THE OTHER SIDE OF CAMPUS, WE'RE IN THE WEST DORM AREA...

...AND BEFORE YOU CAN SAY "THERE'S A GENDER IMBALANCE IN ENGINEERING SCHOOLS," THE STUDENTS WERE DIVIDED INTO *TWO WARRING FACTIONS.*

NO MEGUMI, NO LIFE

MEGUMI-CHAN♥

MEGUMI 4 EVA

ALL-JAPAN MEGUMI FEDERATION

MEGUMI MANIACS

SKULD

SKULD STYLE

SKULD SUICIDE SQUAD

DEFENSE TEAM

SKULD, I WON'T LET YOU GO UNTIL I DIE—LET ME, RIGHT? YOU'LL

SO YOU GONNA LET IT GROW OUT? GET SOME *LONG HAIR?*

NAH, I'M GONNA GET IT CUT. I LIKE *SHORT HAIR.*

I THINK IT'S GETTING A LITTLE OUT OF HAND.

SKULD FASCIST! GOT A *LOLITA COMPLEX,* EH?

HA! I KNEW IT! A *MEGUMI PARTI-SAN!*

...TAMIYA AND OTAKI WERE ENCOURAG-ING PEOPLE TO TAKE SIDES.

OF COURSE, IT *WAS* TRUE THAT IN THE SHADOWS...

WE'RE GIVIN' 2-TO-10 FER MEGUMI!

ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT TO PLACE BETS, BUD.

DON'T WORRY, KEIICHI. IN THE END, THEY'LL BE GOOD FRIENDS.

WELL, I'M GLAD *SOME-ONE'S* OPTIMIS-TIC.

AND AT THE SAME TIME, SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT, TOO.

I HOPE SHE CAN FIND BOTH THINGS IN HER LIFE.

SKULD'S SUCH A STUBBORN CHILD...

...BUT I'M SURE SHE SEES A LITTLE BIT OF HERSELF IN MEGUMI.

HEY, DID YOU GUYS HEAR?

NO WAY! I MEAN, I HAVE *OBSESSIVE FAITH* IN HER, BUT...

SKULD'S BUILDING HER MACHINE *ALL BY HERSELF!*

BUT, SKULD...

...THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT YOU CAN DO ALONE.

WOW...

...THAT *IS* PRETTY COOL.

TRAITOR! I'M BEHIND HER *760%!*

I'M BEHIND YOU 110%, SKULD!

SKULD

SMART! CUTE!

60! GO! LET$ GO SKULD

AND AT LAST, THE DAY OF BATTLE DAWNED.

...CAN YOU WIN FOR ME, MY LOVELY *HYSTERIC WHEEL #1...?!*

I'VE MADE THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE I COULD...

MAD

WRITTEN IN MY BLOOD

AND WE'VE *PROVED* IT BY ALL SIGNING UP TO BE *CRYOGENICALLY FROZEN!*

MEGUMI! OUR SUPPORT FOR YOU IS *UNDYING!*

BRING IN THE ROBOTS!

...OF COURSE, VICTORY WILL STILL BE MINE.

IT'S PRETTY INCREDIBLE YOU MADE *THAT* MACHINE ALL BY YOURSELF...

UH, TAMIYA? THOSE DRUMS THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO COLLECT ...?

HYSERIC WHEEL

...IN THE *LEFT CORNER*, SKULD AND HER *HYSTERIC WHEEL #1!!!*

YUH MEAN DEM *BIG* DRUMS?!

YEAH, CAN THEY--

READY! SET!!

...AND IN THE *RIGHT CORNER*, MEGUMI AND HER *POT-SHAKER DRAGON!!*

GO!!

ZREEEE

chak

MEGUMI PLANS TO SNAG THEM WITH THOSE PINCH-ERS...

...AND CAPTURE THEM WITH THAT GIANT BUCKET!

KLIK

NOT GONNA HAPPEN!

WHAM!

KRAK SPRAK

...

SHE-RAKU

SOMETIMES I CAN'T *BELIEVE* SHE'S MY OWN LITTLE SISTER...

HOW COULD SHE COME UP WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

I DUNNO... *I* CAN BELIEVE IT.

THERE'S NO *WAY* MEGUMI CAN BEAT ME NOW!

WARSSHH

IT TOOK ME ONLY *SECONDS* TO ACQUIRE *13* OF THE 14 DRUMS!

HA! ANYTHING THAT ENTERS THE EFFECTIVE RADIUS OF MY *HYSTERIC WHEEL*...IS *MINE!!!*

WAIT A SECOND... IT'S SPINNING, BUT...

ZREEEEE

AH-HA!

...I'M FINISHED!

IF IT GETS TOO CLOSE TO SKULD'S...

MY OWN ROBOT DOESN'T HAVE ANY OFFENSIVE CAPABILITY.

ZREEEEE

IT'S GOT *DOORS* ON IT THAT OPEN AND CLOSE TO TAKE IN THE DRUMS! SO WHAT IF I...?

...HMM.

glomp!

WHAT TH--?!

HYSTERIC WHEEL

BUCKET

GIVE IT UP, SKULD-- THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE THERE FOR IT TO CATCH ON TO!

IT'S JUST BANG-ING AGAINST THE SIDES.

WHAKKETTA WHAK WHAK WHAK

HYSTERIC DOORS... OPEN!!

click

HYSTERIC WHEEL GO BOOM !!!

...AW, TO HECK WITH IT!

click!

I AM CALM!! I AM MATURE !!

NO NO! NO! I AM A GOOD LOSER!

WELL, LEMME SEE...HM...HM... OKAY...SINCE MEGUMI'S ROBOT NOW GOT EVERY-THING SKULD'S ROBOT GOT... I GUESS DAT MEANS...MEGUMI WINS!

HEY, TAMIYA. WHAT HAPPENS IN THE EVENT OF ONE ROBOT CAPTURING THE OTHER?

CLICK!!

...VERY IMPRES-SIVE.

...A *SELF-DESTRUCT DEVICE...*

UM... IT'S A DRAW ...?

HEY, TAMIYA. WHAT HAPPENS IN THE EVENT OF THE TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF BOTH ROBOTS, ALL THE DRUMS, AND A PORTION OF THE SURROUNDING AREA?

WELL, THEN GIVE US BACK OUR BETS!

A *DRAW?*

UH... WELL...

...SO WE ALREADY SPENT DA PROFITS.

...SEE, DA THING ABOUT DAT IS...WE'D PLANNED T' CASH IN NO MATTER *WHO* WON...

END

LIVE BY THE MOB, *DIE* BY THE MOB.

AIEE! KEIICHI! HELP US!!

OUR *MONEY!*

THAT'S RIGHT!

THAT WAS SOME ROBOT, SKULD!

YOU'RE GOOD...

...BUT THIS TIME YOU WERE JUST *LUCKY.*

MAKE UP WITH HER LIKE A NICE GIRL AND BE FRIENDS.

THERE, THERE, SKULD.

IT'LL BE MORE FUN THAT WAY.

NEXT TIME LET'S MAKE ONE *TOGETH-ER!*

SKULD!! YOU COME BACK HERE!!

SHOULD I SAY IT TO HER AGAIN ...?

LIKE I SAID, SOMETIMES I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S MY OWN SISTER.

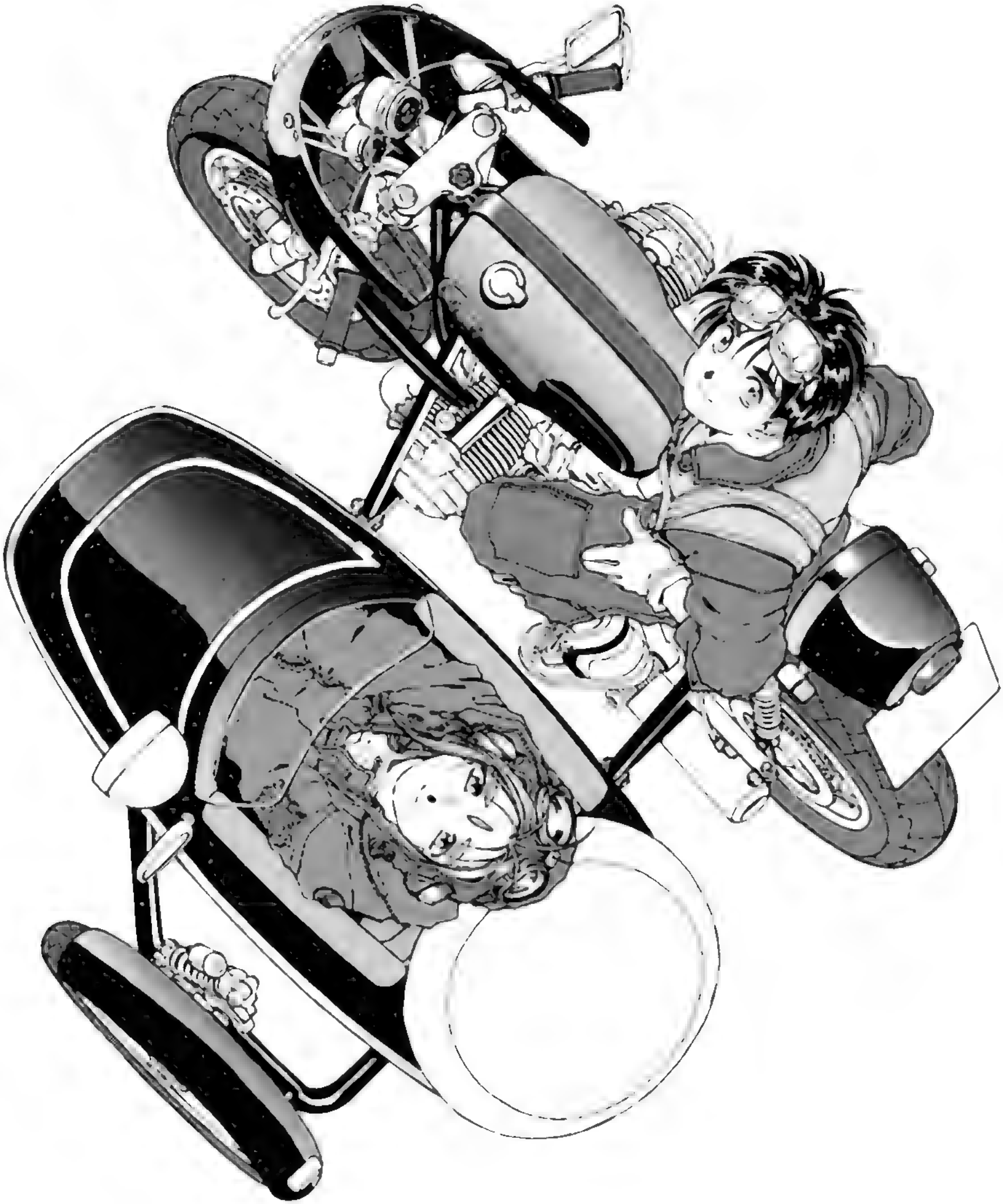
LITTLE B-B-B-B-BRAT...

crackle fizz

FZZZ

CHAPTER 41

The Trials of Morisato



BRRR

BELL-DANDY!!

KCHAK

OH, NO!

DON'T TELL ME... THEY'VE *GONE HOME* ...?!

HELLO?

THAT'S WEIRD... USUALLY, THEY *ALL* SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM...!

BELL-DANDY! W-WHAT'S *WRONG*?!

...SHE HASN'T BEEN USING HER POWERS *AT ALL* LATELY.

BUT...

ZZZZZ

ZZZZZ

YOU DIDN'T USE TOO MUCH OF YOUR POWER AGAIN, DID YOU...?

...I GUESS SHE'LL WAKE UP ***SOME-TIME.***

ZZZZZ

WELL, SO LONG AS SHE'S OKAY...

...IT WOULDN'T REALLY BE *STEALING* A KISS... MORE LIKE ***BORROW-ING*** ONE...

....

PATHETIC, YES. BUT WHEN WILL I GET ANOTHER CHANCE?

...OH, COME ***ON,*** KEIICHI! KISSING HER WHILE SHE'S *ASLEEP?* THAT'S ***PATHETIC!***

....

...ICE CREAM.

NO! YES! WHAT A *TERRIBLE* THING THAT WOULD BE, TO KI--

grab!

NO!

reach!

...CREAM.

ICE...

fwip GULP

fwip GULP

fwip GULP

...YOU A HEAD-ACHE?

DOESN T THAT GIVE...

GULP

fwip

fwap

GULP

SOME-
THING'S
WRONG
WITH BELL-
DANDY
AND
SKU--

HEY,
URD!

URD
!!

TUNK

大吟

GEESH...
THASH
*AW*FUL...

OH
YEAH?

THAT'S...
THAT'S...

GEEZ,
THEY'VE
ALL
GONE
CRAZY...
...ER!

THISH
STUFF
MAKES *YOU*
LOOK LIKE
A DEMON!
SO LETSH
SEE YA
DANSH!!

DO
YOU KNOW
HOW LONG
I HAD TO
WORK-
STUDY FOR
THAT?!

DRINKING
A POOR
STUDENT'S
LIQUOR?!
THAT'S THE
LOWEST
OF THE
LOW!

MY ***BOOZE!***
MY ***DEMON'S***
DANCE
PREMIUM
SAKÉ!
HOW ***DARE***
YOU!

山廃仕込
大吟醸
天狗ノ舞

...FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS.

...AWAKEN... SAVE ME FROM YOUR FAMILY...

KEIICHI! BUY ME ICE CREAM! ICE CREAM!

BELL-DANDY, I BEG YOU...

KEIICHI! BUY ME SAKÉ! SAKÉ!

BUT BELLDANDY WOULD NOT AWAKEN. SHE WOULD SLEEP...

SO, YOU SEE...

...THEY'RE GOING TO BANKRUPT ME.

THEIR DAILY INTAKE HAS RISEN TO TWO LITERS (SKULD) AND *THREE* LITERS (URD)...

fwip GULP fwip GULP

BOOZE, GLORIOUS BOOZE!

WAIT...A *COMPUTER CRASH* CAUSED THIS?!

IT'S ALL BECAUSE YGGDRASIL CRASHED!

THIS... THIS IS *AWFUL !!*

...BUT WE GODDESSES CAN'T CONSUME THEM *UNTIL* THEY'VE BEEN PROCESSED BY YGGDRASIL.

THESE ARE THE SAME ENERGIES THAT POWER THE LOCAL EARTH SPIRITS...

...IT'S OUR LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEM, TOO.

YGGDRASIL IS OUR CONTROL SYSTEM. BUT AT THE SAME *TIME*...

FROM THE SOIL...

...THE TREES...

FOR US TO STAY HERE ON EARTH WE HAVE TO TAP ITS NATIVE ENERGY.

WE BORROW ENERGY FROM ALL OF NATURE.

...AND FROM THE SEA.

...THE WIND AND CLOUDS...

SO *THAT'S* IT! *THAT'S* WHY YOU GUYS ARE DRINKING SAKÉ, SCARFING ICE CREAM, SLEEPING FOR...

?

ZZZ

SAKÉ IT TO ME, BUDDY!

PLEASE! MY HUMAN ENERGY SOURCE KNOWN AS ***MONEY*** IS RUNNING OUT...

BELL-DANDY! YOU JUST ***HAD*** THREE DAYS!

NOW THAT YGGDRASIL IS DOWN...

...WE HAVE TO USE *ALTERNA-TIVE ENERGY SOURCES.*

THE LITTLE WEASEL'S SKIPPED OUT ON US.

HUH.

THIS BREW IS PRACTICALLY *MOON-SHINE!*

cash flow low, gotta go. Please accept these cheaper substitute brands while I'm at school.

--K1

HE'S *GOTTA* BE *KIDDING!*

I MEAN... *NEAPOLITAN ?!?*

WHAT ABOUT *ME?! LOOK* AT THIS STUFF!!

I CAN'T RECHARGE ON THIS *PAINT THINNER!*

WELL...

AMAZING! EVEN THOUGH HE LIVES WITH *BEAUTIFUL WOMEN...*

..HE STILL *SOUNDS* LIKE A TROUBLED LONER!

HM? HUH? REALLY? YOU THINK SO?

BACK ON CAM-PUS...

THAT BOY'S GONNA PAY WHEN HE GETS HOME!!

MIGHT AS WELL DRINK IT...

YEAH! MIGHT AS WELL EAT IT...

...EVENTUALLY, THAT'LL WEAR HER DOWN JUST THE SAME.

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAYS...BUT IF SHE KEEPS ON SUB-DIVIDING HERSELF TO CONSERVE ENERGY...

ANYWAY, DON'T WORRY. IT'S JUST UNTIL THE SYSTEM COMES BACK ON LINE.

YGGDRASIL'S NEVER CRASHED BEFORE.

...AT THIS POINT I JUST CAN'T SAY.

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?

...YESSSS... YOU.

TERY CIRC
MPUS CREDULITY CONSORTIUM

YOUNG MAN...

NAY, SPEAK NOT! FOR I CAN READ THE VERY THOUGHTS WITHIN THY...

I PERCEIVE THY HEART IS SORELY TROUBLED.

haa
haa
haa
haa
haa
haa
...SORE-LY TROU-BLED.
RIGHT...
UH-HUH.
MYSTERY CIRCL
CAMPUS CREDULITY CONSORTIUM
...ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU SEEM OUT OF BREATH...
...HEY! COME BACK HERE!
...THAT'S THE PROBLEM...
...ENERGY...
whoosh
TMP TMP
THOU GOT... *WOMAN TROUBLE !!*
...I CAN *haa* READ THE VERY THOUGHTS WITHIN THY *MIND!*
H-HOW... HOW DID SHE *KNOW?!*
WHOA!!

YOU...I MEAN, YE, WORRY ABOUT *MONEY!*

IT'S ***ALL*** TRUE!

THOUGHT YE I WAS A FRAUD ?!

I REVEAL... YE RODE YOUR *BIKE* TODAY!

ALSO TRUE!

YES! *sob!* IT'S ***TRUE!***

EVERY PERSON ON CAMPUS KNOWS THIS STUFF. BUT SAY IT DRESSED LIKE A ***CHEESY FORTUNE-TELLER...***

FAR *MORE...* ***KEIICHI MORISATO!***

STOP! ***STOP!*** HOW *MUCH* DO YOU KNOW?!

HMM...

BUT PAY ME *NOT*...AND I SHALL YOUR ***DARK SECRETS REVEAL!***

ACTUALLY, THAT WAS EVERY-THING I KNEW ABOUT HIM.

FOR I AM ***YUKI GOMORRAH,*** *VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE N.I.T. MYSTERY CIRCLE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCRYING, DIVINATION, AND* ***CHARACTER ANALYSIS!***

...AND WATCH THE ***MONEY ROLL IN!!!***

CROSS MY PALM WITH 2000 YEN...

...AND I SHALL HELP THEE.

haa

haa

haa

...WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO ***SAY...?***

...

Shing!

um...

...yeah...

ER... ARE YOU OKAY, MA'AM?

THOU...

...VERILY, IT RIDETH HIGH IN THE HEAVENS...

...THOU SEEKEST POWER...

MYSTERY CAMPUS CREDULITY CONSORTIUM

fzzt fzzt

AH...

ZZZAP

MYSTERY CAMPUS CREDULITY CONSORTIUM

UM

shhh! JUST LISTEN!

psst! WHAT HAPPENED TO *HER* ALL OF A SUDDEN?

...SHADOW OF THE SUN, WALKING ACROSS THE NIGHT...

...ITS FRAG-MENTS SCATTERED IN THE EARTH...

--STONES OF THE MOON!

...THEIR NAME I SPEAK--

...VESSELS OF HEAVENLY POWER...

klik klik

...MOON ROCKS?! CAN YOU *BELIEVE* IT?

"WHAT'S SHE GONNA SAY NEXT," I'M WONDERING, AND THEN...

THANK YOU...

...MY LORD.

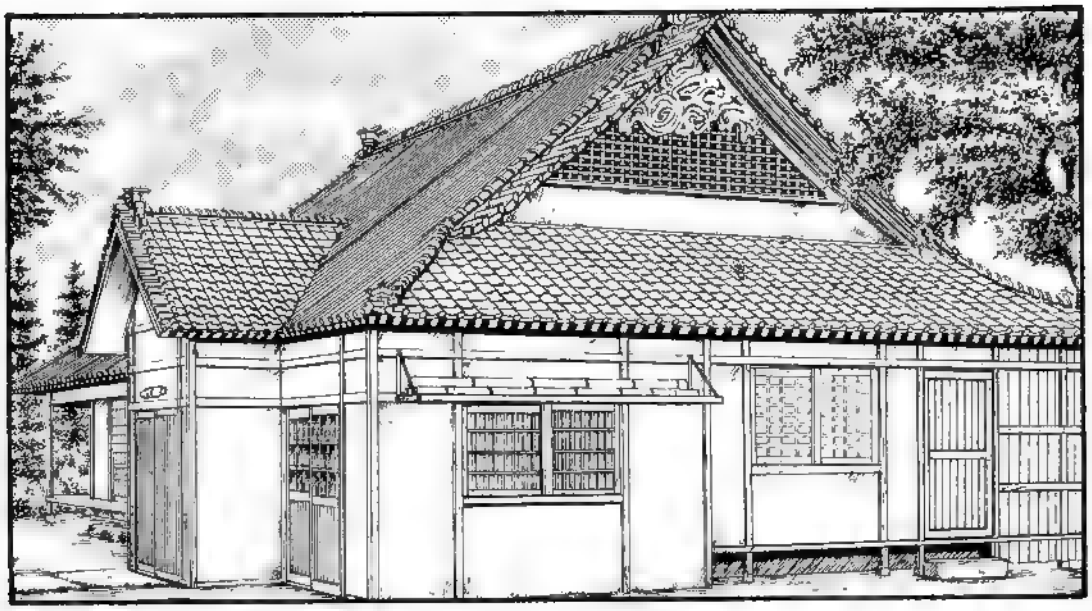
REAL-LY?

DIDN'T YOU KNOW? THE MOON REALLY HAS SUCH POWER.

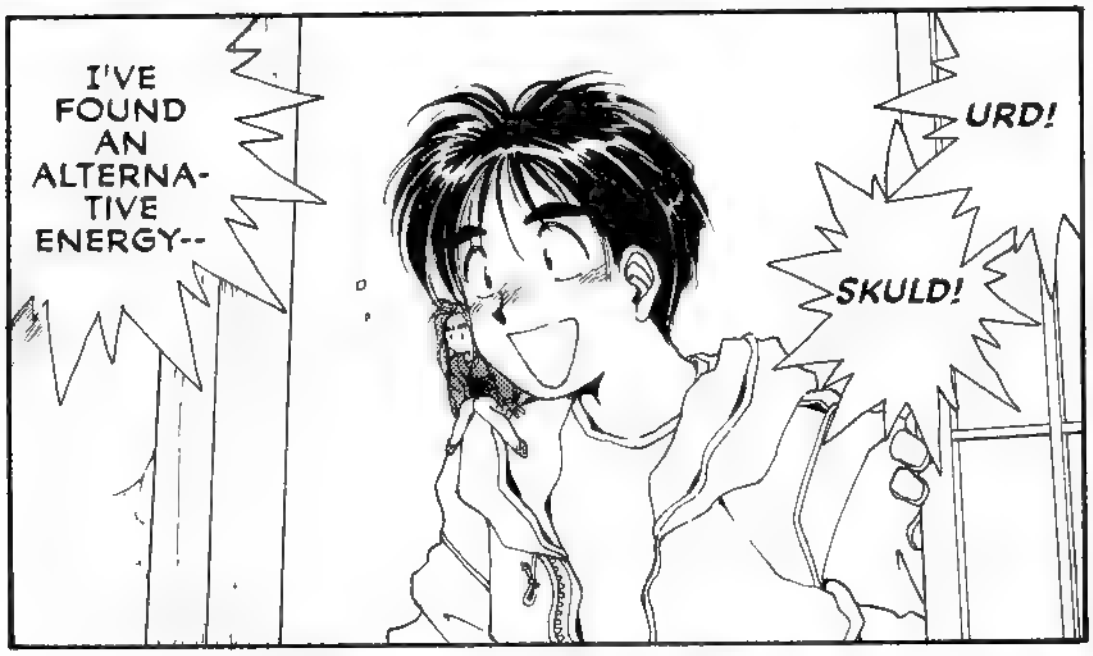
HMM?

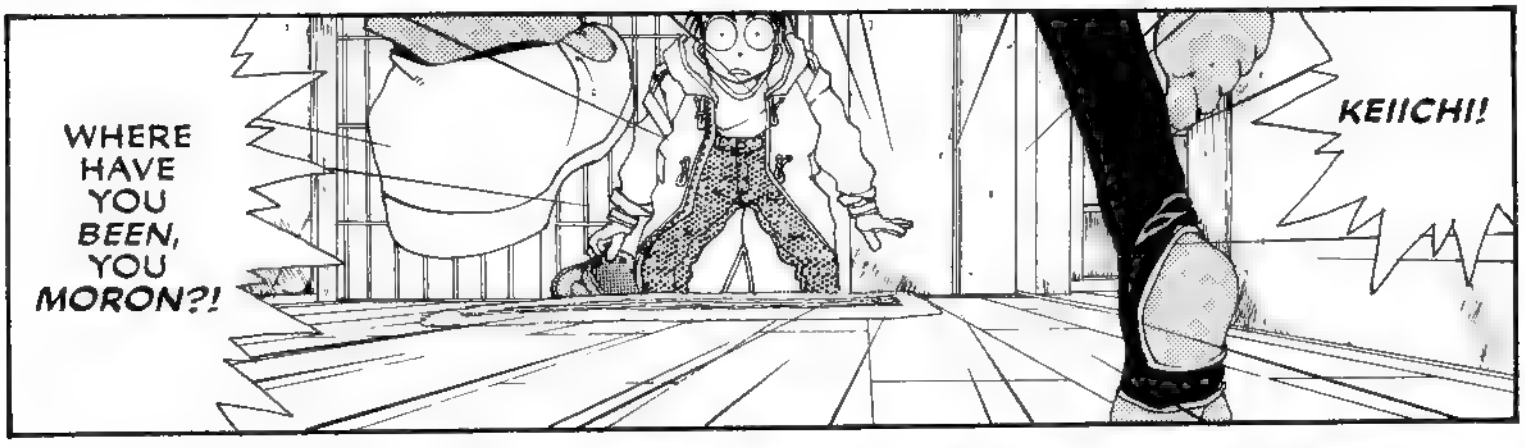
...BUT THERE'S *STILL A CHANCE!*

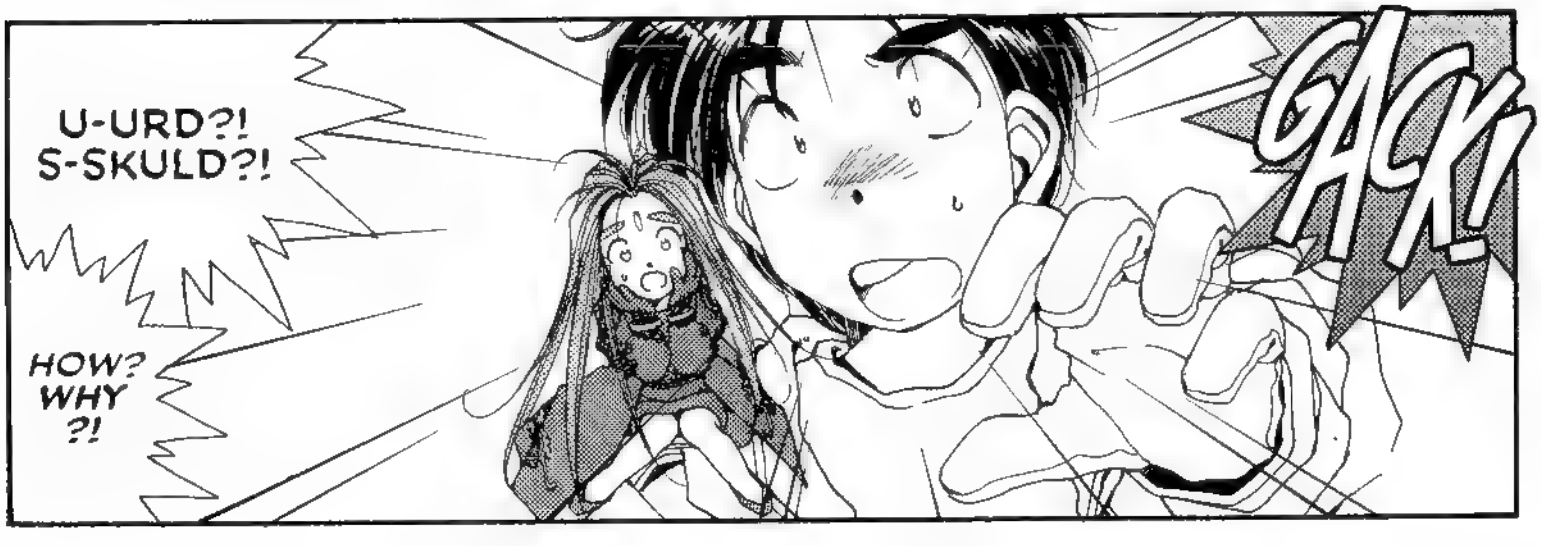
GREAT! I'M *THIS* CLOSE TO *BANK-RUPTCY...*



...yeah...
um...
...WHAT HAP-PENED ...?
MYSTERY CIRCLE


I'VE FOUND AN ALTERNA-TIVE ENERGY--
URD!
SKULD!


WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, YOU MORON?!
KEIICHI!


U-URD?! S-SKULD?!
HOW? WHY ?!
GAK!

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT US LIKE THAT?

...WHAT?

...

I DUNNO... I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE BEFORE NOW...

URD! WHEN DID YOU GET SO *LITTLE?!*

EEEK! SKULD! WHEN DID YOU GET SO *BIG?!*

WAAH!! I'M *SHORT!*

ALONG WITH YGG-DRASIL, THEY MANAGE OUR ESSEN-TIAL FUNC-TIONS.

THE EMBLEMS ON OUR FORE-HEADS ARE *CONTROL PRO-GRAMS.*

PRO-GRAMS?

THEIR *EMBLEM PRO-GRAMS* ARE OUT OF SYNCH!

mmm... *great!*

AND FLAT...

URD BEARS THE EMBLEM OF THE *PAST*...

...I BEAR THE EMBLEM OF THE *PRESENT*...

...AND SKULD BEARS THE EMBLEM OF THE *FUTURE*.

THE FLUCTUATIONS IN OUR POWER BALANCE MUST HAVE TRIGGERED A RECURSIVE LOOP.

URD'S REGRESSING INTO THE PAST... WHILE SKULD'S RUSHING INTO THE FUTURE.

Shirp

YOU'RE LUCKY, BELLDANDY... ***YOU'RE*** IN THE PRESENT.

NOTHING EVER HAPPENS TO *YOU*.

...I HAVE *PROPER* PROPOR-TIONS.

HEEH AHAHA

MAN...AT THIS RATE I'M GOING TO TURN INTO A LITTLE KID...

AT *LAST*...

AIEE!! OH, *NO!*

AND AT THIS SPEED YOU'LL SHOOT RIGHT PAST US, AND BECOME THE GOD-DESS OF WRINKLES.

UH-HUH.

WONDER-FUL.

AHHH... TO THINK I WOULD CATCH UP TO MY BIG SISTERS SO *SOON!*

I HAVE *PROOF POSITIVE* THAT *MOON ROCKS* CAN GIVE YOU ALL THE ENERGY YOU *NEED!*

HELP IS NIGH!

...BUT IF YOU HAVE A STABLE SOURCE OF ENERGY, NO PROBLEM, RIGHT?

HEH, HEH, HEH...

AIEE!! *OH, NO!*

ARE YOU *SURE*, KEIICHI ?!

EH?! *REALLY!*

OH, KEIICHI OUR HERO!!

BY THE WAY... WHERE WILL YOU GET *MOON ROCKS?*

HMM...

THERE ARE LUNAR METEORITES THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND... SOME CAMPUS LABS HAVE THEM...

...COULDN'T THEY SPARE ME ANY *FREE SAMPLES* ...?

APOLLO AND *LUNA* BROUGHT BACK 382 KILOS OF MOON ROCK...

sigh

floomp

KEIICHI ...?

I-I...

plip plip

...I'LL BE OLDER THAN MY *SISTERS* EVEN!

...AT THIS RATE, I'LL...

I...I WON'T SAY I LIKE BEING LIKE THIS WAY EVER AGAIN...

...PLEASE *HELP* ME!

PLEASE... ...I DON'T WANT TO BE AN OLD MAID SO *YOUNG!*

THANK YOU, KEIICHI.

THE RICK

...D-DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A LITTLE KID, OKAY? *snif*

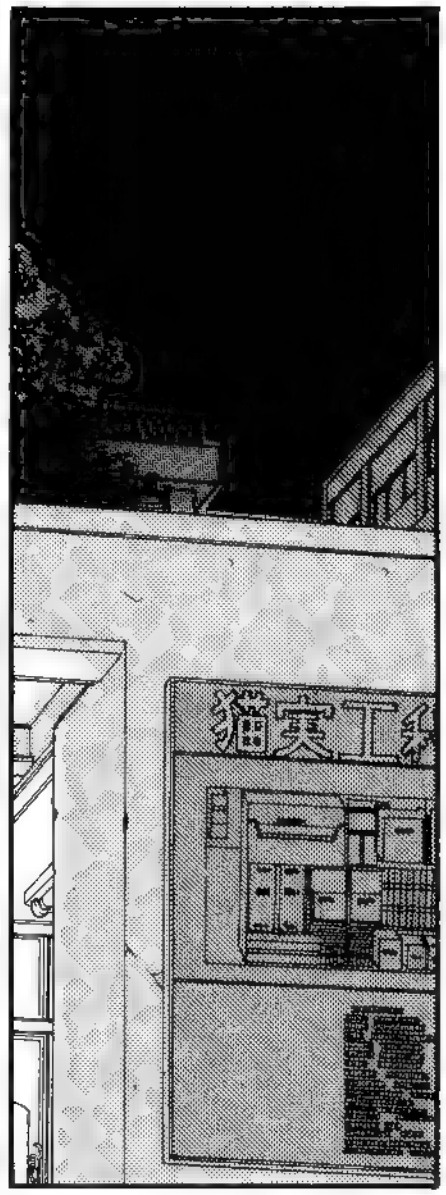
I DON'T WANT TO SEE "THE SHRIVELLED SKULD," EITHER!

I'D DO IT EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T ASK ME.

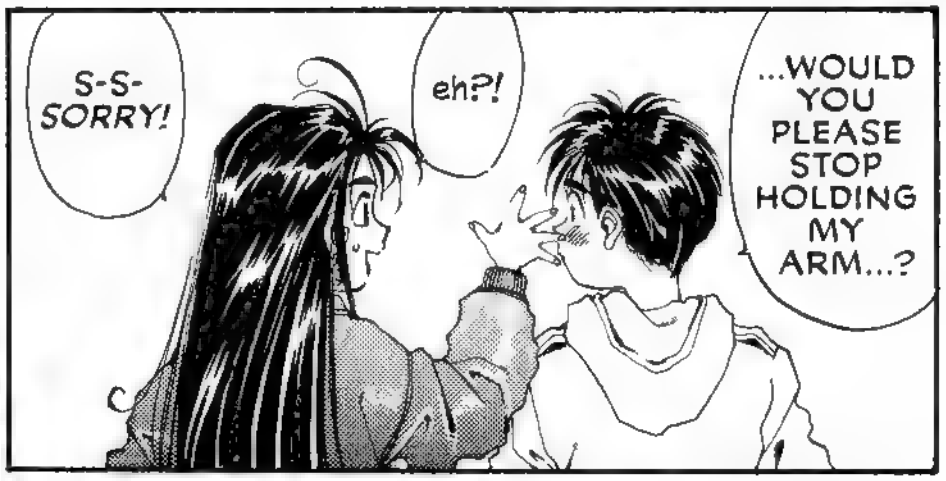
Pat

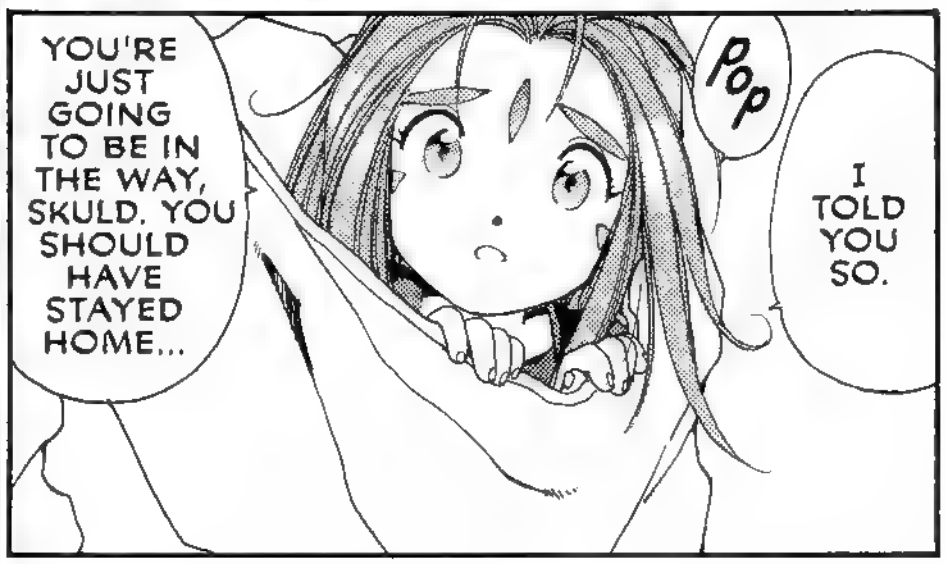
HUH ?!
SKULD...

HM? NO.
KEIICHI, DO YOU HAVE MOON ROCKS HERE...?



I AM NOT !!
NYAH! NYAH! BIG SISTER'S ALL JEALOUS!


S-S-SORRY!
eh?!
...WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP HOLDING MY ARM...?


YOU'RE JUST GOING TO BE IN THE WAY, SKULD. YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED HOME...
Pop
I TOLD YOU SO.

MATERIALS LAB

IF WE CAN'T *GET* A MOON ROCK...

chik

WOW! ISN'T THAT--?

...WE'LL JUST HAVE TO *MAKE* A MOON ROCK!

...CALCI-UM...

...TITANI-UM...

ALUMI-NUM...

--THAT MEANS WE CAN *SYNTHESIZE* ONE!

WE KNOW THE *COMPOSI-TION* OF MOON ROCKS--

YUP! A MULTI-TON *HYDRAU-LIC PRESS.*

GRMMMN

...SWITCH ON!

...MOUNT IT ON THE PRESS, AND...

YOU *DID* IT!

clap clap

...IT SHOULD BE READY BY SUN-RISE.

MMMMMM

MMMMMM

GRMMMMMMMM

PSSSHH

FREEEE

gulp

...I FEEL OVER-FLOWING WITH POWER!

MY WHOLE BODY... FULL OF ENERGY...

FSHH

SHKKK

LET'S SEE...

...IF IT WORKS.

fwmp

KEIICHI...

...YOUR CLOTHES ARE TOO DARNED *BIG* FOR ME!

SHHSSSS

?

S-SKULD ...?

ACTUALLY, WITH ALL THAT ALCOHOL INSIDE HER, SHE WAS ***PRESERVED***... SO SHE HADN'T REGRESSED A MINUTE IN THE LAST TWELVE HOURS.

...AT LEASH TH' ***LITTLER*** I GET... THE LESS ***BOOZE*** IT TAKES...

WELL...

BUT THERE WAS STILL ONE NOT-SO-LUCKY YOUNG LADY LEFT...

YAHOO !!

BELL-DANDY! IT WORKED!

CHAPTER 42

Urd's Fantastic Adventure

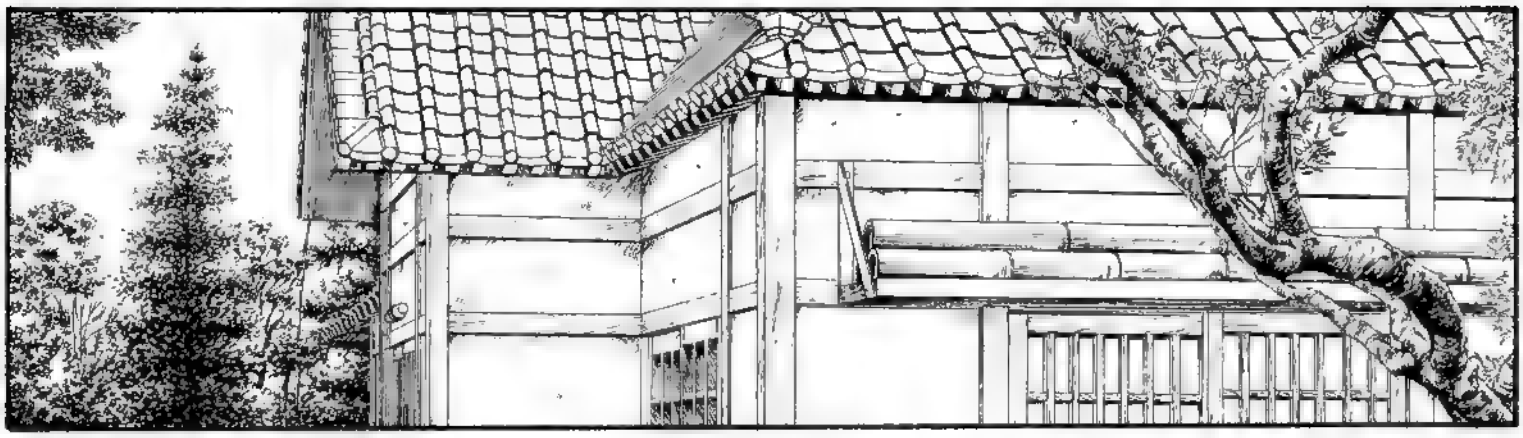
WITH THE CRASH OF THE YGGDRASIL SYSTEM, BELLDANDY HAS SHRUNK TO SAVE ENERGY, AND HER SISTERS' EMBLEM PROGRAMS ARE RUNNING OUT OF SYNCH. URD BECAME STEADILY YOUNGER, WHILE SKULD BECAME AN ADULT WOMAN AND WAS AGING FAST.

IT SEEMED THE TWO GODDESSES FACED A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH.

USING THE "MOON ROCK" KEIICHI SUCCEEDED IN FABRICATING, FOLLOWING A MESSAGE FROM THE LORD OF YGGDRASIL...

...SKULD WAS ABLE TO RETURN TO NORMAL.

BUT THEN...



WE DID IT! WE MADE A MOON ROCK!
URD!

SKULD... HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN I'M MYSELF AGAIN?
OOH! WHAT A LITTLE CUTIE!
UH-OH.

JUST IN TIME, TOO! I WAS AFRAID I'D TURN INTO A BABY!

REALLY?

WITH THIS...

...I CAN RETURN TO *NOR-MAL!*

A MOON ROCK...

HERE YOU GO.

HUH ...?

AH ?!

KRAKOOM

WHAT'S THE BIG *IDEA?!*

WHA--?!

GEEZ, IT WORKED ON *SKULD!* HONEST!

I ONLY GOT A LITTLE *TEENY* BIT BIGGER!

UH... I... ER ...!

IT SHOULD...

I DON'T...

YOU'RE REALLY *PUSHING* IT, KIDDO!

MAYBE IT DOESN'T WORK FOR PEOPLE WITH *EVIL HEARTS* ...?

I GET IT... THAT'S WHY SHE ONLY CAME BACK A LITTLE.

SOME PROBLEM IN THE PRODUCTION PROCESS MUST HAVE KEPT IT FROM PUTTING OUT FULL POWER.

I'LL BUY YOU SOME NICE KID'S CLOTHES AT THE SALVATION ARMY.

DON'T BE SO DOWN.

THE MOON ROCK'S POWER IS ALREADY ALMOST USED UP!

KEIICHI!

URD'S ROOM

WHAT THE HELL GOOD IS *THAT* GONNA DO ME?!

YOU IDIOT!

GEE, URD'S SORTA GETTING *INTO* THIS, HUH?

NO KID-DING.

I *AM* A LITTLE CUTIE!

HMM...

NOT TOO BAD.

SLAM

I'M GOIN' OUT.

O-OKAY... HAVE A GOOD T-TIME...

HUHH...?

BUT... I... IF I COULD FIND SOME WAY TO HAVE SOME *FUN* WITH THE SITUA-TION...

"GETTING INTO IT"? WHO'S GONNA GET INTO *THIS?!*

EH?

EX-
EXCUSE
ME...
ARE
YOU
O-OKAY
...?

...!

OH,
NO!!
MY
POWER...
IT'S...

hahh

hahh

=hahh=

AH
...?

AH!!

huh?

SA... *KÉ...* BUY ME... *SAKÉ.*

PLEASE... I NEED...

SA...

"SA" ...?

N-NO PROB-LEM! N-NO SWEAT!

I WONDER WHAT PART OF THE WORLD SHE'S *FROM?*

THANKS, KID.

WHEWW... YOU REALLY SAVED MY BUTT.

龍神

WHAT'S SHE NEED *SAKÉ* FOR?

DOING SOME SHOPPING FOR YOUR *DAD?* WHAT A *BIG* BOY YOU ARE!

AW, THAT'S OKAY!

I CAN BUY *KINTETSU II* LATER!

I'M SORRY.

YOU MUST HAVE USED YOUR OWN... whatsit... *MONEY?*

SO... WHAT IS IT?

uh...

A *GAME.* YOU KNOW... A COMPUTER GAME?

IT'S THE SEQUEL TO THIS TOTALLY COOL RAILROAD BUILDING GAME!

OH YEAH?

"KIN-"... HUH...?

KINTARO DENTETSU II!

YOU BUILD TRACKS, AN' BUY HOTELS AND STUFF ALL OVER...

...OR YOU SELL OFF THINGS YOU DON'T NEED!

YOU SELECT MENUS WITH THE "A" BUTTON, SEE?

COMPUTER, HUH.

BEEP

BING!

...?

WH- WHY IS MY HEART POUNDING LIKE THIS...? WHO IS SHE...?

IT'S FINISHED. DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE?

WHA--?!

UH, sure...

BiP BiP

WOW!

TAK TAKKA TAK

TAK TAK TAKKA TAK TAK TAKKA TAK TAK

SHE PLAYED THE GAME LIKE A SAFE CRACKER, TRYING EVERY POSSIBLE COMBI-NATION UNTIL...

TAK TAK TAKKA TAK TAKKA

OKAY, MAYBE SHE WASN'T THE ***BEST*** AT HER JOB... BUT URD ***WAS*** THE SYSTEM OPERATOR FOR THE MOST COMPLEX COMPUTER IN THE UNIVERSE, AFTER ALL.

....

TAK TAK TAKKA TAK

FINISHED.

EEP!

AND... uh... WHAT'S YOURS ...?

M-MY NAME IS *SHOHEI!* SHOHEI YOSHI-DA!

UM...

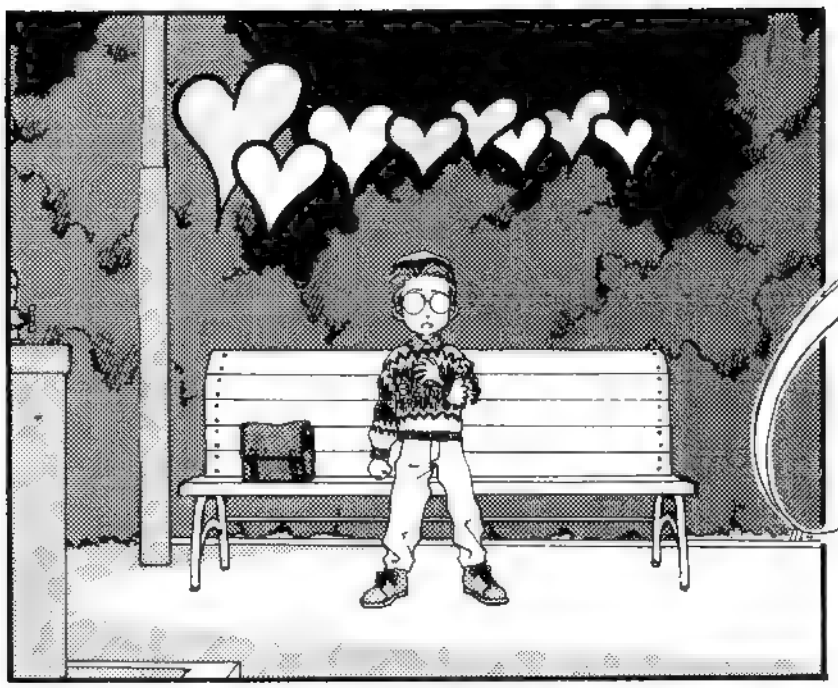
WELL, I GUESS I BETTER GET GOING.

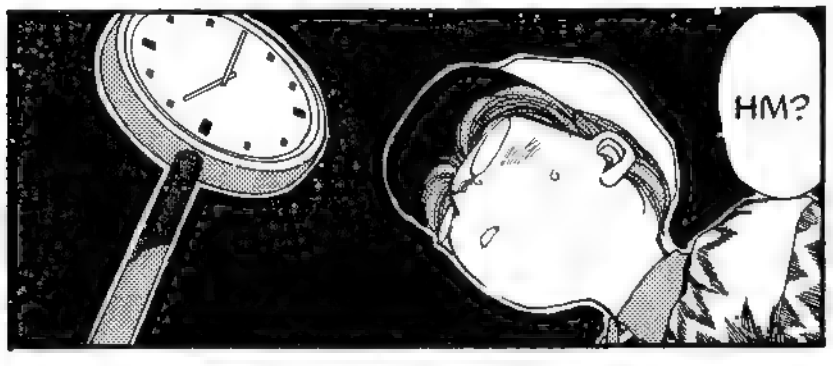
HMM. THAT WAS PRETTY FUN.

URD.

W-WILL YOU...

...BE HERE AGAIN TOMOR-ROW?




HM?

OH NO! MOM'S GONNA KILL ME!!

I'M BACK!

IF YOU ARE.
I WILL.

WHO KNOWS WHAT SIDE EFFECTS THERE MIGHT BE?

I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD USE THEM ANY-MORE UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT THE PROBLEM IS.

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THE COMPO-SITION.

FWAP

WHY DON'T YOU MAKE *TWO* OF THEM THIS TIME? I MEAN, LIKE, IT WORKED ON *ME*.

WHOA!

"SIDE EFFECTS" ...?! WHAT HAVE YOU ***DONE*** TO ME?!

AW, THERE'S NO HURRY.

OH, HI...I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT IT'S STILL NOT READY.

HMM...

DID SOME-THING SPECIAL HAPPEN TO URD?

GEEZ... WHAT'S WRONG WITH *HER?*

IT'S MORE INTER-ESTING BEING A KID THAN I THOUGHT...

NEXT DAY...

GEE, ISN'T SHE HERE?

hahh

DON'T TELL ME SHE DIDN'T COME TODAY?

hahh

hahh

hahh

S-SORRY! YOU JUST--

AHAH! HA HA HA!

BOO! YOU'RE *LATE!*

!!

WHUMP

OKAY... TODAY I BOUGHT *KINTETSU II...*

...huh?

TODAY LET'S DO SOMETHING *DIFFERENT.*

UH...

...OR MAYBE EVEN BEFORE THAT-- THE MOMENT WE FIRST MET...

I THINK IT WAS THAT MOMENT...

...MY HEART...

I MEAN, FROM THAT MOMENT ON...

...MY HEART NEVER STOPPED SINGING.

...THAT SHE CAST HER MAGIC SPELL OVER ME.

...YOU MEAN... *THAT ?!*

YEP, THAT.

WE'RE GOING TO CLIMB... *THAT!*

WHEN YOU SAY... "THAT"...

UM...

I MEAN... IT'S ***DANGEROUS.*** AND WE'LL BE IN ***BIG*** TROUBLE IF THEY CATCH US. AND... AND...

Y-

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

...WHEN IT'S LIVED WITH A LITTLE EDGE.

LIFE IS ALWAYS MORE INTERESTING...

DON'T WORRY SO MUCH.

HEH, HEH.

b-
but...

OKAY--
HERE
WE
GO!

NOW...
WE JUST
CROSS
HERE,
AND UP
THOSE
STAIRS.

SO
FAR,
SO
GOOD.

N-NO. I *CAN'T.*

IF I FALL, I'LL BE *KILLED!*

WHOOSH

EEP!

CROSS *THAT?*

ARE YOU *KID-DING?*

...YOU WON'T BE *ABLE* TO DO IT...

...NO MATTER *HOW* EASY IT IS.

SHOHEI...

IF YOU *THINK* YOU CAN'T DO SOME-THING...

THERE'S NOTHING BUT A SINGLE PATH TO THE OTHER SIDE... ONE ROAD TO HER.

DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES.

...YOU *WON'T* DIE... IF YOU *DON'T* FALL.

IF YOU'LL DIE IF YOU FALL, THEN THAT ALSO MEANS...

...

THMP

LOOK!

SEE... YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU TRY!

HAH!

WOW!
THIS IS GREAT!
ISN'T IT? WHEN I SAW IT FROM ABOVE, I COULD TELL THIS WAS THE HIGHEST PLACE IN TOWN.
FROM ABOVE ...?
ER NEVER MIND

I CAN'T TELL YOU.

...
...

...WHERE *DO* YOU LIVE, URD?

GEE...

...AND WE COULDN'T EVER MEET AGAIN.

...THE MAGIC SPELL WOULD END...

IF I TOLD YOU...

BYE-BYE!

URD! WE FOUND THE PROBLEM!

W- WAIT!

I'M HOME!

ISN'T THAT *WONDER-FUL*, URD?

ANYWAY... JUST GIVE IT A TOUCH AND YOU'LL BE BACK TO NORMAL.

TOMORROW.

TOMOR-ROW IS SOON ENOUGH.

SEE, MOST OF THE ROCKS ON THE MOON ARE *IGNEOUS--*

SO I HAD TO *MELT* IT ONCE, AND LET IT SOLIDIFY!

HE WAS MAKING IT WRONG!

WE FOUND IT AT LAST!

I FOUND IT FOR HIM.

IT'S READY TO GO!

WE'LL GET YOU BACK TO NORMAL!

SORRY 'BOUT TALKING ALL AT ONCE.

...!

...SOME-HOW.

I'VE GOT TO SEE HIM TOMOR-ROW... AND TELL HIM...

SHOHEI ?!

...YOU HAVEN'T FALLEN IN LOVE ...?

YOU AND THAT BOY...

URD...

HE FOL-LOWED ME!

HA HA...
NO, I WAS J-JUST... JUST KILLING TIME. THAT'S ALL.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE TIDE IS EBBING NOW...
WHY ARE YOU *STRIP-PING?!*
WHOA! WAHH! WAIT!
I DON'T WANT TO RUIN THINGS. MY *CLOTHES*... ...I MEAN.
SHEESH! FIRST IT'S *TOMOR-ROW*--
--THEN IT'S *"RIGHT NOW!"*
MAKE UP YOUR MIND, WILLYA?
OH, URD...
KEIICHI! GIMME THAT *MOON* ROCK, RIGHT NOW!

I'M *SURE* SHE WENT IN HERE...

YES? CAN I HELP YOU?

ANY-BODY HOME ...? I--

OH, DEAR...

I, um... IS *URD* HOME ...?

MY LITTLE SISTER ISN'T HERE ANY-MORE.

...I DON'T THINK SHE'LL EVER COME BACK AGAIN.

SHE HAD TO GO BACK TO WHERE SHE LIVES... FAR, FAR AWAY.

...THAT'S SUCH A SHAME.

BUT...

...SHE GAVE ME A *MESSAGE* FOR YOU... BEFORE SHE LEFT.

...YOU KNOW...

THAT'S WHEN I KNEW... THE SPELL HAD BEEN BROKEN.

"I HAD FUN...

"THANK YOU, SHOHEI."

...AND *THIS.*

...I NEVER WOULD MEET HER AGAIN.

AND EVEN IF I WAITED BACK AT THE BENCH FOREVER...

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English-language version
produced by Dark Horse Comics

OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 6
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NOTE: Full addresses and e-mail addresses will not be printed, unless you ask! All fan artwork, letters, and e-mails submitted become the property of Dark Horse Comics.

First of all I would to thank you all for the good work of bringing the joy of *Ah! My Goddess* **[See? People do know it's the same thing—CGH ^_^]** to all the people outside Japan. I would especially like to say thanks for releasing all volumes in the original format of right-to-left. I'm a guy that is used to reading manga that way and now I feel more at home when I pick up my new volume of *Oh My Goddess!*

There are a few things that I'd like to put to your attention though. I have been rather disappointed in the delays in releasing the past few volumes. The books never seemed to hit the stores on the original release date but a few months after. I am curious to know why the delays, and please is there something that can be done to release subsequent volumes quicker?

I also have a few ideas that will definitely please fans like me eager for their *Oh My Goddess!*. In Japan the volumes are printed on harder white paper and come with a cool glossy sleeve cover. Is this something Dark Horse might consider doing with future volumes? I wouldn't mind paying slightly more if it means I can keep my volumes in better condition for longer.

Many thanks for having such a great section for fans to write, I've never written such letters before, I do hope you would print this letter in the next volume!

My greatest appreciation and thanks! Keep up the good work!

Yours faithfully
Kin Yee Wan

(P.S. I don't mind you printing my name, but please do keep my e-mail secret ^_^)

Secret it will be kept. You will admit that here at "Letters To The Enchantress," we maintain the strictest standards of privacy, never bombarding your inbox with stock tips or propositions to serve as the financial agent of deposed African heads of state.

We certainly apologize for the lateness of the *Oh My Goddess!* volumes, a shortcoming that's difficult to hide. But we're doing our best to wrench things back onto the original schedule we set out for ourselves when *OMG!* made the transition to our new right-to-left format. Vol. 26 was, I believe, on-time leaving Dark Horse (although, depending on what bookstore you purchase it, it may have appeared a little on time-*ish*). According to the original schedule, Vol. 27 is supposed to come out four months after Vol. 26 (that is, the idea is to alternate between an old and new volume every two months). That should be in August.

However, on this occasion we are going to try and release two older *OMG!* volumes in the four months between Vol. 26 and 27—this one you're reading now, Vol. 6, and Vol. 5, which will hopefully have had/will come out in May (see, I'm actually writing this in April—being an editor of a manga series is like an unglamorous form of time travel. I've come from the future to warn myself about our publishing schedule!).

Having already published *Oh My Goddess!* in two formats (three, really, counting both the longtime monthly *OMG!* left-to-right comic and the original left-to-right graphic novels that collected them, in addition to our current right-to-left graphic novels), I regret to say that it is not likely that we will make any changes at this stage such as the adoption of a dust jacket—especially if such a change was likely to increase the price of the book (the price of the book is part of our long-term planning). I was personally concerned about the switch in paper stock from the older left-to-right editions, but I think it's turned out well, and provided surprisingly good results for the color pages as well (the double-page shot of Belldandy and Urd in Vol. 3 turned out great).

Having said that, we're not at all averse to trying new things (and fancy things) when it comes to our book design. I literally look up to (they're up one flight of stairs) the Dark Horse designers and pre-press department, who put a great deal of work and consideration into making sure what might look good on the screen will actually look good in reality (reality being the printed book you hold in your hands, which is the only version that matters). In a not too distant future age, when *Oh My Goddess! Colors* is released in English, we'll endeavor to see that this fanciest of all *OMG!* books is just as fancy in our English edition. How fancy? To paraphrase Ohno from *OMG!*'s magazine-mate *Genshiken*, "Let's just say when you see it, you'll totally freak out."

OK. Time for fan art—serious business. And I'm guilty of injecting extra drama, as Maggie Mei Lewis, aka Xiu Xiu, was kind enough to send in some nice illustrations for Vol. 26, yet I missed the most important part—her dedication. So Xiu Xiu has been *extra*-kind enough to send in more illustrations, and this time let me be sure to repeat her words—these drawings are:

Dedicated to Blackie!

Lucky I used to be a DJ in college. Thank you all very much, and see you all again in the next volume!

Drd by
UXL
XiuXiu

Hild
by
MKL XiU XiU

Belldandy
By
Kiu Kiu
Maggie Mei Lewis

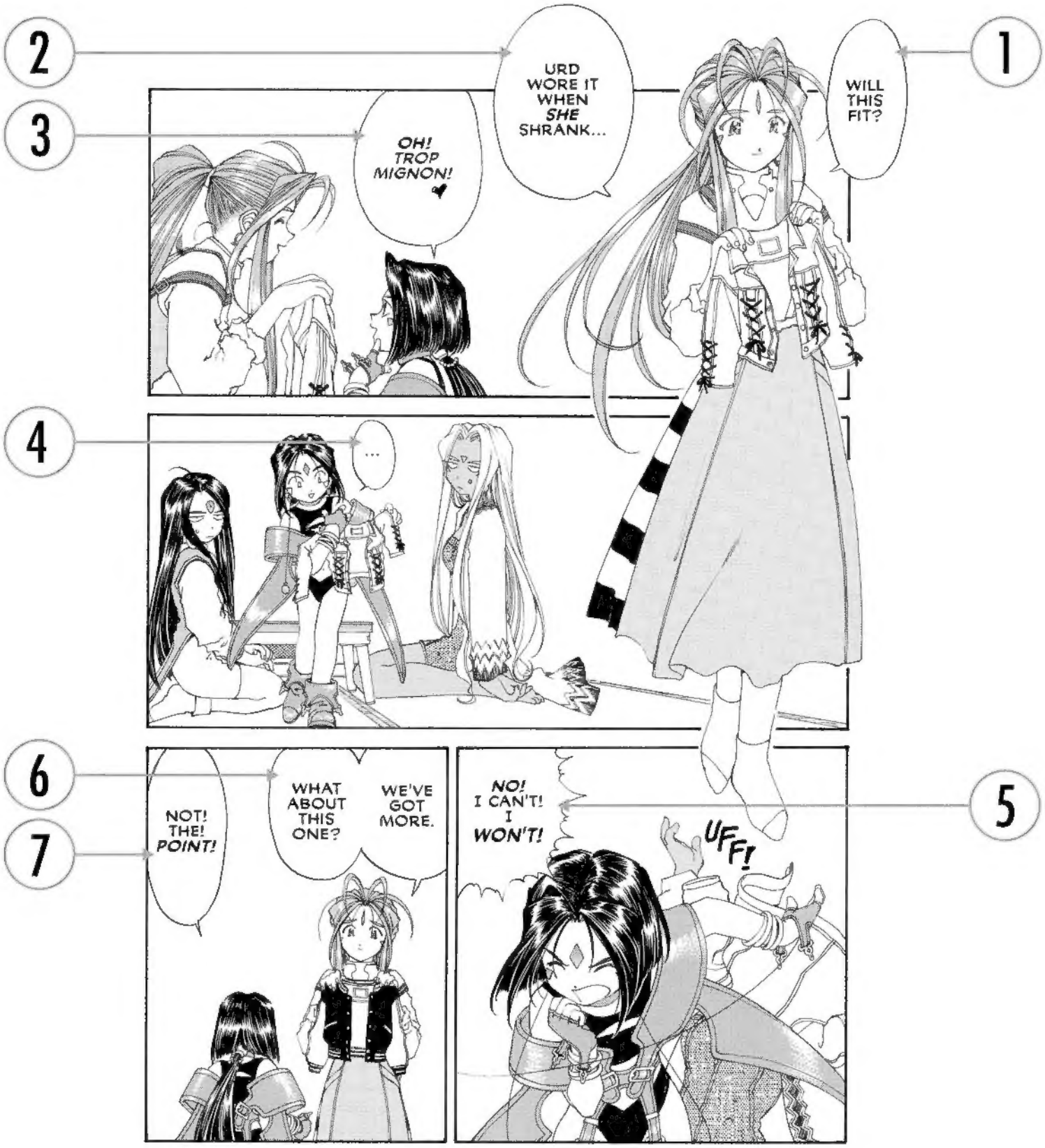
Creator Kosuke Fujishima in 1991!

His message to fans in the original Japanese *Oh My Goddess!* Vol. 6:

"Mwa-ha-ha! Hey, all you readers, thanks for reading the latest volume! I, the Dainese-man, have blown the evil F. Jesheema to bits! From here on out, this page of the book might even be worth reading. I think there might be some of you out there who're thinking, "Man, isn't the creator getting a little burned-out on this schtick?" and to be honest, that's exactly the case! But don't relax, for the Evil Jesheema just might return at some point, so stay on the lookout! (Being a creator is tough, but yes, I know being a devout reader can be tough, too...)"

STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right-to-left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^



MANGA/HUMOR

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 6

WITH URD IN TERRIBLE MASTER

mode, the goddess once known for simply being wicked hot is now both hot *and* wicked! Having freed the great Fenrir Wolf, Urd has thereby activated the Ultimate Destruction Program, which promises just what it says . . . unless her sisters Skuld and Belldandy can stop it! And believe it or not, all that's just the *first half* of this volume's drama.

Dark Horse's most-requested classic manga is the inspiration for the new anime TV series! Bonus message from creator Kosuke Fujishima, and your letters, plus four pages of interior manga story in color—not available in the original English or Japanese edition!

DARK HORSE MANGA

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